



31761 11554899 2





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2022 with funding from  
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761115548992>



*Do*  
Canada National Health and Welfare,

CAI  
HW  
R51

Dept. of  
( DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA )

41

Report on the

# Administration of Old Age Pensions in Canada

Under the provisions of the

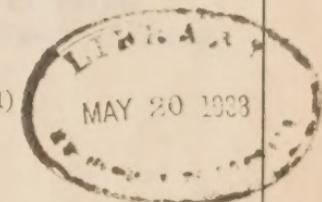
## Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)



1937/38

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1938

OTTAWA

J. O. PATENAUME, I.S.O.

PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1938



To His Excellency the Right Honourable Lord Tweedsmuir, P.C., G.C.M.G.,  
C.H., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of  
Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1938, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. A. DUNNING,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, May 2, 1938.

The Honourable CHARLES A. DUNNING,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1938, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, May 2, 1938.

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1937-38

## A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *The Act and its Coverage*

The origin of Old Age Pensions in Canada goes back to an Act of the Parliament of Canada assented to on March 31, 1927. This Act is cited as the Old Age Pensions Act, being Chapter 156 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927. It was amended in 1931 in two important respects which will later be noted.

In accordance with the established interpretation of jurisdictional responsibilities under the British North America Act, administration of Old Age Pension payments is a responsibility of the provincial governments. The Dominion Act, therefore, provided for a system of pension payments to be administered by provincial authorities and stipulated the conditions under which the Dominion Government would make financial contributions in respect of pensions paid by each provincial government, participating in the scheme, to persons living within its own borders. Provision was also made for the Dominion accepting sole responsibility for Old Age Pension payments to persons living in the Northwest Territories. In effect, therefore, the scheme involves a system of conditional grants with provincial administration and with the Dominion's function limited to financial assistance and to supervision by way of examination and audit of provincial records. The scheme, moreover, involves the payment of pensions wholly on a non-contributory basis.

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that the Governor in Council may make an agreement with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of any province for the payment to such province quarterly of an amount equal to seventy-five per centum of the net sum paid out during the preceding quarter by the province for pensions, pursuant to a provincial statute authorizing and providing for the payment of such pensions to the persons and under the conditions specified in the Act and the Regulations made thereunder. Prior to an amendment to the Act in 1931 the Dominion's proportion of the cost of pensions was fifty per centum of the net amount paid out by the province for pensions. The amendment to the Act became effective on November 1, 1931.

Previous to the amendment of 1931 the Governor in Council made agreements with five provinces, namely, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan. Under the authority of section 6 of the Act pensions were also paid in the Northwest Territories from January 25, 1929. Agreements were made with the four remaining provinces between the years 1933 and 1936. The dates on which the Old Age Pensions Act became effective in the nine provinces and in the Northwest Territories are as follows:—

Alberta .....	August 1, 1929
British Columbia .....	September 1, 1927
Manitoba .....	September 1, 1928
New Brunswick .....	July 1, 1936
Nova Scotia .....	March 1, 1934
Ontario .....	November 1, 1929
Prince Edward Island .....	July 1, 1933
Quebec .....	August 1, 1936
Saskatchewan .....	May 1, 1928
Northwest Territories .....	January 25, 1929

Under the Act, the Yukon Territory is defined as a "province" and an agreement must be made by the Gold Commissioner of the Yukon with the Governor in Council before pensions can be paid to persons residing within the Yukon Territory. However, while a proposal to enter into such an agreement has been made on several occasions the Yukon Territorial Council has not favoured the adoption of an Old Age Pensions scheme and pensions are not now being paid in the Yukon Territory.

## *2. Pension Authorities in Various Provinces*

In each of the nine provinces the Provincial Government has appointed a pension authority to administer the Old Age Pensions Act. In five of the provinces, namely, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, a separate board or commission has been appointed by the Provincial Government to administer the Act. The board or commission in certain of these provinces is also charged with the responsibility of administering provincial social legislation such as Mothers' Allowances. In Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia the Workmen's Compensation Boards have been appointed by the Provincial Governments to administer Old Age Pensions. In Saskatchewan, the Minister in charge of the administration of the Act is the pension authority.

The municipal officials in three provinces, namely, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta, take an active part in the administration of the Act. Persons residing in these provinces are required to make application to the municipal officials but the decisions in all cases rest with the pension authorities appointed by the Provincial Governments. In the other six provinces applications for pensions are made directly to the pension authorities.

All nine provinces have made provision for the investigation of each application for a pension. The investigations are made by the pension authorities in order that applications from persons who are eligible to receive pensions may be dealt with in a fair and equitable manner and to prevent persons who are not eligible to receive pensions from obtaining assistance to which they are not entitled under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act.

Persons residing in the Northwest Territories who wish to obtain Old Age Pensions must make application to the Department of Finance, Ottawa. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police make investigations for the Department.

## *3. Growth of Old Age Pensions in Canada*

The amount required for the payment of the Dominion's proportion of provincial expenditure on account of Old Age Pensions has increased from \$131,452.01 for the fiscal year 1927-28 to \$28,524,587.23 for the fiscal year 1937-38. The adoption of the scheme by the nine provinces has resulted, of course, in an increase in the number of persons who are eligible to receive pensions. While the greater proportion of the increase in expenditure for Old Age Pensions may be explained by the fact that additional provinces have adopted the scheme, statistics indicate that there is also a steady increase in the number of pensions in all provinces and that the proportion of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over is also increasing. It cannot be assumed that, after the Old Age Pensions scheme has been in effect in a province for a certain number of years, the percentage of pensioners to the population seventy years of age and over will cease to rise. The figures shown in the following table (Table 1) indicate that the percentage is still rising in the provinces where the Act has been in effect for several years.

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Date Act effective	Year ending Mar. 31, 1935	Year ending Mar. 31, 1937	Year ending Mar. 31, 1938
Alberta.....	Aug. 1, 1929	43.04	50.55	52.83
British Columbia.....	Sept. 1, 1927	37.18	40.09	42.55
Manitoba.....	Sept. 1, 1928	49.75	52.54	52.70
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936	.....	54.46	59.61
Nova Scotia.....	Mar. 1, 1934	46.32	49.84	50.86
Ontario.....	Nov. 1, 1929	33.00	34.54	35.16
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933	25.34	30.48	31.07
Quebec.....	Aug. 1, 1936	.....	23.81	48.37
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928	49.85	51.98	53.35

The percentages for the fiscal year 1934-5 are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1, 1934, and for the fiscal years 1936-37 and 1937-38 on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1, 1936, and June 1, 1937, respectively. The figures are, of course, approximate as these calculations must be made on the basis of the estimated population in this particular age group.

The number of pensioners at the close of each fiscal year from 1927-28 to 1937-38 and the Dominion's contributions during the same period are shown in the following tables (Tables 2 and 3):—

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1937-38

—	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
Alberta.....		2,017	3,287	4,382	5,244	6,286	7,151	8,086	9,100	9,726	
British Columbia.....	2,712	3,867	4,576	5,557	6,486	7,128	8,095	9,076	10,011	10,824	11,563
Manitoba.....		3,953	5,104	5,834	7,190	8,280	9,236	10,229	10,862	11,559	11,800
New Brunswick.....										9,803	11,142
Nova Scotia.....							6,509	12,241	13,044	13,456	13,827
Ontario.....		26,370	37,334	41,300	42,853	46,281	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530	
Prince Edward Island.....							1,258	1,439	1,659	1,768	1,811
Quebec.....										22,620	46,490
Saskatchewan.....		2,768	4,482	5,913	7,643	8,195	9,203	10,137	10,706	11,436	11,775
Northwest Territories.....				4	5	5	5	7	7	8	9
	2,712	10,588	42,553	57,930	67,006	71,705	86,873	101,051	108,415	146,524	175,673

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1937-38

—	1927-28		1928-29		1929-30		1930-31		1931-32		1932-33	
	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Alberta.....					62,555	15	320,363	50	645,367	48	827,830	32
British Columbia.....	131,452	01	399,340	95	357,801	04	580,841	45	1,032,840	50	1,176,242	75
Manitoba.....			242,303	86	427,143	44	652,803	80	1,128,222	34	1,362,137	75
New Brunswick.....												
Nova Scotia.....												
Ontario.....					355,828	97	3,516,805	90	6,039,971	87	6,827,955	49
Prince Edward Island.....												
Quebec.....												
Saskatchewan.....			191,041	97	333,287	21	585,940	81	1,184,539	97	1,316,956	68
Northwest Territories.....					557	74	1,387	06	1,467	71	1,419	74
	131,452	01	832,686	78	1,537,173	55	5,658,142	52	10,032,409	87	11,512,542	73

—	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	Total
	\$ cts.					
Alberta.....	934,387 91	1,070,901 17	1,224,104 53	1,409,059 79	1,560,571 47	8,055,141 32
British Columbia.....	1,304,144 08	1,478,313 72	1,672,830 60	1,823,267 82	1,955,951 01	11,913,025 93
Manitoba.....	1,516,372 06	1,655,955 90	1,797,144 68	1,922,415 33	1,997,107 90	12,701,607 06
New Brunswick.....	69,270 71	1,479,899 16	1,861,101 81	1,764,915 17	1,836,704 46	8,811,891 31
Nova Scotia.....	7,085,839 82	7,671,618 81	8,677,034 05	9,146,837 58	9,527,468 70	58,849,361 19
Ontario.....	74,125 02	128,855 76	148,007 47	161,527 62	167,330 39	679,846 26
Prince Edward Island.....					2,345,107 05	8,386,230 60
Quebec.....	1,328,057 26	1,455,195 60	1,582,604 89	1,706,190 29	1,757,834 87	10,731,337 65
Saskatchewan.....	1,398 07	1,719 24	1,655 84	1,722 57	1,714 56	11,441,649 55
Northwest Territories.....						13,042 53
	12,313,504 93	14,942,459 36	16,764,483 87	21,149,351 52	28,524,587 23	123,398,884 37

It should be borne in mind that the figures shown in Table 3 do not include the amounts paid out by the provinces which, as has been previously stated, paid fifty per cent of the cost of pensions up to November 1, 1931, and twenty-five per cent thereafter. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions, the provinces are required to pay the cost of administration. The cost of Old Age Pensions to the taxpayers of Canada for the fiscal year 1937-38 may, therefore, be estimated at approximately \$39,000,000.

The figures shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3 indicate that with each passing year, a greater percentage of the population seventy years of age and over apparently finds it necessary to apply for pensions. The percentage of the total population of Canada in the age group seventy years of age and over is steadily rising and will continue to rise for a number of years. This is due to the fact that in the last thirty or forty years a large proportion of the population of Canada has been recruited by the immigration of adult persons from other countries. The difficulties which the Governments of Canada must face in future under a scheme which provides for the payment of non-contributory pensions is revealed by the figures shown below (Table 4) which are based on careful estimates of future population growth by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics:—

TABLE 4.—ESTIMATE OF COST TO PROVINCES AND DOMINION OF OLD AGE PENSIONS  
IN 1941, 1951, 1961 AND 1971

Ages	Population			
	1941	1951	1961	1971
20-69 years.....	6,879,000	7,799,000	8,410,000	9,222,000
70 years and over.....	463,000	620,000	822,000	928,000
Estimated cost of Pensions.....	\$46,300,000	\$62,000,000	\$82,200,000	\$92,800,000

The above estimate of pension payments by the Dominion and the provinces in future years has been computed on the assumption that 50 per cent of the population aged seventy and over will receive pensions of the average annual amount of \$200. The average pension at the present time is slightly in excess of \$200, and the average proportion of the population seventy years of age and over in receipt of pension is below 50 per cent for the country as a whole, although slightly higher than 50 per cent in several provinces. It has also been assumed that the scale of pensions will not be made more generous and that the age at which applicants may obtain pensions will not be lowered.

#### *4. Method of Administering Old Age Pensions*

##### *(a) Provincial Administration*

Under the terms of the agreement made by the province with the Governor in Council, the provincial authorities assume responsibility for the administration of the Old Age Pensions Act within their jurisdiction. Before any agreement comes into operation the province must submit its proposed scheme for the administration of pensions for the approval of the Governor in Council. No change may be made in a provincial scheme after its approval without the consent of the Governor in Council.

Among other things, the provincial scheme provides for the appointment of the pension authority referred to in section A2 of this Report. The expression "pension authority" is defined by subsection (a) of section 2 of the Old Age Pensions Act as meaning the officer or body charged by law with the consideration of applications for pension or with the payment of pensions. The pension authority appointed by the Provincial Government is responsible for the administration of the Act and persons residing in the province who wish to obtain Old Age Pensions must, in all cases, apply to the pension authority or its representatives. All applications for pensions must be considered by the pension authority and the decision as to the eligibility of each applicant to receive a pension rests with the pension authority. The provincial scheme may provide that other officials or bodies are authorized to take part in the administration of the Act but in no case may a pension be granted by any official or body other than the pension authority appointed by the Provincial Government and approved by the Governor in Council.

The pension authority is responsible for the recording of pensions granted and the payment of such pensions monthly. Any change in the rate of pension granted to a pensioner may be made only by the pension authority.

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that a pension authority shall be entitled to recover out of the estate of any deceased pensioner, as a debt due by the pensioner to such authority, the sum of the pension payments made to such pensioner from time to time, together with interest at the rate of five per cent per annum compounded annually, but that no claim shall be made by a pension authority for the recovery of such debt directly or indirectly out of any part of the pensioner's estate which passes by will or on an intestacy to any other pensioner or to any person who has, since the grant of such pension or for the last three years during which such pension has continued to be paid, regularly contributed to the support of the pensioner by the payment of money or otherwise to an extent which, having regard to the means of the person so having contributed, is considered by the pension authority to be reasonable.

In any case where a person to whom an Old Age Pension is granted owns property, real or personal, the pension authority may adopt whatever measures it deems necessary to prevent the pensioner from disposing of his property after a pension has been granted to him.

The Regulations made under the authority of the Old Age Pensions Act provide that, as soon as may be after receiving any application and the documents required by the Regulations to accompany any application, the pension authority shall take all necessary steps to ascertain whether the applicant is entitled to a pension and, if he is so entitled, what rate of pension should be paid. Investigations are made by investigators appointed or employed and paid by the provincial government or pension authority or any other agency approved by the Minister of Finance. The same procedure must be followed before the pension authority increases any pension or, if payments in respect

of a pension have ceased, before the pension authority re-commences payments. In any such cases, however, where the pension authority considers that an investigation is not necessary it may make its decision after it has made such inquiry and obtained such information as it deems adequate for the purpose. The pension authority is also required to obtain, at least once in each year, satisfactory evidence that the pensioner continues to be eligible to receive a pension at the rate then being paid to him.

### (b) *Dominion Administration*

While the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act place the responsibility for the administration of pensions upon the provinces, the Dominion can undoubtedly assist the provinces in working out an efficient and, as far as possible, a uniform procedure for dealing with applications for pensions. The Act, as amended in 1931, provides that the acceptance by any province of the moneys granted by Parliament for the payment of Old Age Pensions shall be subject to the condition that the Governor in Council shall have authority to order an examination, inspection and audit of all expenditures of such moneys in the province and the accounts with respect thereto. A continuous audit of the provincial records is made by the Department of Finance and a periodic audit is conducted by the Auditor General of Canada. Through these audits, the Department of Finance is kept informed of the difficulties which arise in the administration of the Act in the different provinces. The Department, however, does not regard itself as solely an investigating and auditing authority. On the contrary, it is endeavouring to make a constructive contribution to the efficient administration of the Act by personal consultations with provincial officials and the exchange, through correspondence, of information, experiences and suggestions in regard to problems which are constantly arising. It is confidently hoped that in this way much can be done to promote an increasing degree of co-operation and efficiency in the administration of this co-operative undertaking.

One of the greatest contributions which the Dominion can make towards working out an efficient administration of the Old Age Pensions Act is to arrange to have Dominion and Provincial officials meet together to discuss their common problems and to consider the advisability of recommending alterations in the Regulations made under the authority of the Act. A report of one such conference which was held at Ottawa in 1937 will be found in the succeeding sections, and it is the intention to hold similar conferences from time to time in the future as they may appear to be desirable or necessary.

### 5. *Appointment of New Interprovincial Board*

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that the Governor in Council may make regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act and may provide by regulation for the constitution and powers of an Interprovincial Board to interpret and recommend alterations in the regulations.

By Order in Council P.C. 1806 dated October 3, 1928, an Interprovincial Board was appointed and met at Ottawa on October 22 to 25, 1928 and on January 13 to 16, 1930.

Following the transfer of the administration of the Old Age Pensions Act from the Department of Labour to the Department of Finance as of April 1, 1935 a careful survey of the administration of the Act in each province was made by officials of the Dominion Government. From the information obtained through these surveys it was apparent that the officials in the several provinces held quite different views on various matters of administration and also on the interpretation of a number of the Regulations made under the authority of the Old Age Pensions Act. In order that the problems which had arisen since the last meeting of the

Interprovincial Board in 1930 might be given careful consideration and with a view to working out a more uniform procedure which could only be accomplished by clarifying and altering a number of the Regulations, it was deemed advisable to hold a conference of Dominion and Provincial officials at Ottawa before the close of the fiscal year 1937-38. During the time which had elapsed since the appointment of the members of the first Interprovincial Board a number of changes had occurred. Four additional provinces had adopted the Old Age Pensions scheme and the majority of the members of the original Board were no longer engaged in the administration of Old Age Pensions. The original Board, therefore, was abolished by Order in Council P.C. 2703 dated October 29, 1937 which also provided for the appointment of a new Board with the following members:—

Dominion of Canada.....	Hon. Charles A. Dunning, Minister of Finance.
	W. C. Clark, Deputy Minister of Finance.
Nova Scotia.....	Hon. F. R. Davis, Minister of Health.
	E. H. Blois, Director of Old Age Pensions.
New Brunswick.....	Hon. A. P. Paterson, President, Executive Council.
	W. P. Jones, Director of Old Age Pensions.
Prince Edward Island.....	Hon. Mark M. McGuigan, Minister of Education and Public Health.
	Otto Campbell, Superintendent of Old Age Pensions.
Quebec .....	Hon. W. Tremblay, Minister of Labour.
	J. R. Forest, President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission.
Ontario .....	Hon. Eric Cross, Minister of Public Welfare.
	George Tattle, Vice-Chairman, Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission.
Manitoba .....	Hon. W. J. Major, Attorney General.
	Major C. K. Newcombe, Chairman, Workmen's Compensation Board.
Saskatchewan .....	Hon. Charles M. Dunn, Minister of Highways and Trans- portation and in charge of the Old Age Pensions Act.
	W. C. Mills, Commissioner, Old Age Pensions.

Alberta . . . . .	Hon. Solon Low, Provincial Treasurer.
	Dr. V. W. Wright, Chairman, Workmen's Compensation Board.
British Columbia . . . . .	Hon. George S. Pearson, Minister of Labour.

E. S. H. Winn,  
Chairman, Workmen's Compensation Board.

On November 2, 1937, the Board met at Ottawa and sat for four days. Assisted by the legal advisers of the Dominion and Provincial Governments, a representative of the Auditor General of Canada, and others, the Board gave careful consideration to the numerous problems which have arisen in the administration of Old Age Pensions and the Regulations made under authority of the Act. There was a general realization that not only was there a lack of desirable uniformity in the different provinces resulting from varying interpretations of the Regulations but also that certain abuses had crept into the administration of the Act and that the standard of efficiency in administration could be improved by candid discussion of existing problems and by the free exchange of mutual experiences. However, the desire was not merely to eliminate abuses but as well to promote an efficient administration which would assure that those who are justly entitled to benefits under the Act would continue to receive their just rights.

For four days, therefore, the Members of the Board devoted themselves to a frank and detailed discussion of the working of the existing Regulations and of various administrative practices and procedures with a view to securing as great a degree of uniformity in administration as was practicable in the light of varying conditions, the protection of persons justly entitled to pension rights, the assurance of a high standard of administrative efficiency, and the elimination of abuses with the consequent removal of unjust burdens upon the public treasury. Throughout the discussions a spirit of co-operation prevailed, and when the conference adjourned on November 5, unanimous agreement had been reached on practically all matters which had been brought up for discussion. As a result of its deliberations, the Board recommended a number of amendments to the Regulations. The amended Regulations were approved by the Dominion Government (Order in Council P.C. 1/3050, dated December 9, 1937) and also by all Provincial Governments. They became effective upon publication in *The Canada Gazette* of January 8, 1938. Subsequently the Dominion submitted an amendment to Regulation No. 18 for the approval of each province. This amendment was finally approved by Order in Council P.C. 250, dated February 3, 1938, and became effective upon publication in *The Canada Gazette* of February 26, 1938.

#### 6. Alterations in the Regulations Recommended by the Interprovincial Board and Approved by the Governor in Council

Among the most important matters which the Interprovincial Board had to consider was the question of amending the Regulations with regard to the residence of an applicant for pension. Under the old Regulations an applicant was presumed to have resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension if, within the said twenty years, he had lodged within Canada on at least 4384 days and had not been absent from Canada for more than 731 consecutive days provided he had lodged within Canada some time at least twenty years prior to

making application. It was generally agreed that the provision whereby an applicant was debarred from obtaining a pension on account of absence from Canada for more than 731 consecutive days was causing hardship in a great number of cases and it was recommended that this provision should be deleted from the Regulations. Under the new Regulations recommended by the Board an applicant is deemed to have been resident in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension only if he has lodged within Canada on at least 5844 days within the said twenty years and on at least 700 days within the last two years of the said twenty years provided he has lodged within Canada some time at least twenty years prior to making application. It is believed that this change in the Regulations will benefit a great number of persons who, through force of circumstances, have been absent from Canada for more than 731 consecutive days in the twenty years prior to the date on which they apply for pensions.

The Board also recommended a change in the Regulations with regard to an applicant's residence in the province. Under the old Regulation an applicant was presumed to have resided in the province in which the application for pension was made for the five years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension if he was then residing in the province and if he had lodged within the province on at least 1095 days in the said five years provided he had lodged within the province some time at least five years prior to making application. As all provinces are now participating in the Old Age Pensions scheme, the limitations of this Regulation had ceased to have any real purpose. Under the new Regulation recommended by the Board an applicant is deemed to have resided in the province in which the application for pension is made for the five years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension if he is then residing in the province and if he has lodged therein on at least 700 days in the said five years. This change will also permit many persons to qualify for pensions whose applications had previously been rejected.

The new Regulations provide that the form of application for pension shall contain a warning that any person who knowingly obtains payment of or continues to receive a pension which he is disqualified from receiving is liable to a fine or imprisonment, or to both fine and imprisonment, and that the form shall be accompanied by a statutory declaration of the applicant to the effect that his statements are true and that no information has been concealed or omitted. Under the Regulations an applicant may apply for pension at any time after he has reached the age of sixty-nine years and nine months. The new Regulations require persons who apply before they have reached the age of sixty-nine years and nine months to complete a new form of application. Provision is made, however, that persons who are over the age of sixty-nine years and six months when they make application may re-sign their applications and re-swear or re-declare any affidavit or statutory declaration.

The provisions in regard to investigation have been strengthened. The previous Regulation merely required the pension authority to take all necessary steps to ascertain whether an applicant was entitled to a pension. The new Regulation provides that no pension can be granted until there has been a thorough investigation by investigators appointed or employed and paid by the Provincial Government or pension authority, or any other agency approved by the Minister of Finance. An annual investigation or enquiry must be made to ascertain whether or not the pensioner continues to be eligible to receive a pension at the rate then being paid to him. If the pension is suspended an investigation or enquiry must be made before the payment of pension can be resumed.

The Regulation determining what evidence is acceptable as proof of age has been strengthened. An applicant must, if possible, produce a certificate of

birth or a certificate of baptism. If these are not obtainable he must produce entries in a family Bible or other genealogical record. If this is not available the pension authority shall obtain information from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics or evidence from school records, insurance policies, et cetera. The pension authority is not bound to accept any such certificates if it has reason to doubt their accuracy, and may require additional evidence.

A slight change has been made in the Regulation determining what evidence may be accepted as proof of nationality. A certificate of service in His Majesty's forces is to be corroborative evidence of British nationality only, and not proof as it was in the old Regulation.

The chief changes in the Regulation establishing the income of an applicant for the purpose of determining his pension are as follows:—

- (a) Under the old Regulation real property was taken at the rate of not less than five per centum of its assessed or market value, whichever was considered the more equitable standard, exclusive of encumbrances. Under the new Regulation real property may be taken at the rate of not less than five per centum of its assessed or market value or the pension authority may take the net income from the real property, if the net income exceeds five per centum of the assessed or market value.
- (b) The old Regulation provided that the amount of a Canadian Government Annuity, purchasable by the personal property of the pensioner after making due allowance for reasonable clothing and household furniture, should be included as income of the pensioner. The new Regulation provides that the pension authority shall consider as income the amount of an Immediate Canadian Government Annuity, Ordinary Life Plan, payable quarterly, purchasable with the cash and securities (taken at market value) of the applicant in excess of two hundred and fifty dollars and with the value of the personal property of the applicant less a reasonable allowance for household furniture and clothing and for the personal property from which any net profit or gain is derived by the applicant. If the applicant is one of two spouses living together the pension authority shall include as income of the applicant the amount of such a Canadian Government Annuity purchasable with one-half of the cash and securities of the two of them taken at current market value in excess of a sum not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars and by one-half of the value of the personal property of the two of them less a reasonable allowance for their household furniture and clothing and for the personal property from which they obtain net profit or gain.
- (c) If an applicant fails to purchase such an annuity, the amount payable under any such annuity shall be considered as annual income during the life of the pensioner. (This is a new provision).
- (d) Contributions by children, or contributions reasonably expected to be made by children, are to be included as income. (This is a new provision).

A new provision has been inserted to the effect that if the pension authority has reason to believe that a transfer of property was made to qualify for a pension the pension authority shall refuse to grant a pension until the property has been re-transferred, or in the alternative the pension authority shall include as income of the applicant the amount of a Canadian Government Annuity purchasable by the value of the property of the applicant so transferred.

There is also a new Regulation providing that if an applicant made a voluntary transfer of property less than five years before the date of application

for pension, such transfer shall be presumed to have been made for the purpose of qualifying for a pension, in the absence of evidence to rebut the presumption.

If an applicant made a voluntary transfer of property less than five years before the date of pension, the pension authority may, if the property is not re-transferred to him, defer the payment of pension until such time as the pensioner's equity in the property has been exhausted at the rate of \$365. a year if the pensioner is single or living alone, or at the rate of \$730. a year if the pensioner is living with his spouse.

Under the old Regulations pensions commenced on the day after the application was received by the pension authority. The new Regulations provide that the pension shall commence on the first day of the month following the month in which all necessary information and proofs have been furnished to the satisfaction of the pension authority.

Other new provisions may be briefly outlined. A pension shall not be paid for any period of more than one month during which the applicant is receiving direct relief. A pension shall be suspended as soon as a pensioner has been absent from Canada for more than thirty consecutive days and until his return and during the period that a pensioner refuses or fails to give the pension authority any information required by it. If an applicant transfers property after the granting of a pension, the pension authority may suspend the pension until the aggregate amount of the suspended payments equals the value of the property transferred. A pension authority is now required to recover from a pensioner any sum improperly paid by way of pension or if the pension authority is unable to recover the whole or any part of such sum the pension authority must suspend the payment of the pension until the aggregate amount of the suspended payments equals the sum improperly paid. Payments by Canada to any Province shall be paid only after audit by the provincial auditor and on his certificate, subject to final audit by the Dominion.

The changes made in the Regulations apply to both Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons. The amendment to Regulation 18 approved by Order in Council P.C. 250 dated February 3, 1938 dealt specifically with pensions payable to blind persons married to sighted spouses. The effect of the amendment is to provide that the total income and pension of such persons shall not exceed the aggregate amount which may be obtained by a single old age pensioner and a single blind pensioner.

The Interprovincial Board also gave careful consideration to two problems of growing importance in the administration of Old Age Pensions, namely, the responsibility of children for the maintenance of their parents and the control of property owned by persons to whom pensions have been granted. It was unanimously agreed that the Minister of Finance should be instructed to request the provincial governments to co-operate in an effort to check the growing tendency on the part of younger persons well able to support their parents to shift their responsibilities on to the State and to provide by legislation for the control of property owned by pensioners.

As a result of the discussions during the Conference on Old Age Pensions and the alterations in the Regulations recommended by the Interprovincial Board it is confidently expected that there will be increasing progress made towards a more uniform and more efficient administration of the Act throughout Canada.

#### *7. Financial and Statistical Summary*

The following table (Table 5) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1938, the Dominion's contribution to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1938, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1938 and from the

inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1937.

TABLE 5.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1938

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective March 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Total number of pensioners.....	9,726	11,563	11,800	11,142	13,827	57,530
Average monthly pension.....	\$18.30	\$19.18	\$18.66	\$13.68	\$14.64	\$18.43
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.	1.25	1.54	1.65	2.53	2.55	1.55
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.	2.37	3.62	3.12	4.25	5.04	4.41
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.	52.83	42.55	52.70	59.61	50.66	35.16
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1938.	\$399,878.85	\$496,874.94	\$499,011.51	\$345,570.55	\$462,161.84	\$2,364,610.90
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1937, to March 31, 1938.	\$1,560,571.47	\$1,955,951.01	\$1,997,107.90	\$1,333,673.27	\$1,836,704.46	\$9,527,468.70
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.	\$8,055,141.32	\$11,913,025.93	\$12,701,607.06	\$2,201,981.57	\$6,811,891.31	\$58,849,361.19

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928	Order-in-Council effective Jan. 25, 1929	
Total number of pensioners.....	1,811	46,490	11,775	9	175,673
Average monthly pension.....	\$10.63	\$17.84	\$16.45	\$19.20	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.	1.95	1.48	1.25	0.09	
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.	6.27	3.07	2.35	1.21	
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.	31.07	48.37	53.35	7.44	
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1938.	\$42,664.88	\$1,884,936.12	\$443,351.26	\$499.21	\$6,939,560.06
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1937 to March 31, 1938.	\$167,330.39	( <sup>(1)</sup> )\$8,336,230.60	\$1,757,834.87	\$1,714.56	\$28,524,587.23
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.	\$679,846.26	\$10,731,337.65	\$11,441,649.55	\$13,042.53	\$123,398,884.37

\*Percentages based on estimated population as at June 1, 1937—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

(<sup>(1)</sup>) Includes payments from August 1, 1936 for certain pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

## B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### 1. Provisions of Amendment to Old Age Pensions Act

Following representations from the different organizations in Canada which are interested in the welfare of blind persons the Old Age Pensions Act was amended by Parliament in 1937 to provide for the payment of pensions to blind persons who have attained the age of forty years and who meet the other requirements set forth in the Act and Regulations made thereunder. In making special provision for persons afflicted by blindness it was recognized that the amount of income which old age pensioners are permitted to receive would not be adequate for blind persons who, in practically all cases, require special assistance from others in the performance of their daily routine.

The Old Age Pensions Act provides for the payment of a pension to every person aged seventy years or over who, among other things, is not in receipt of

an income of as much as three hundred and sixty-five dollars a year. The maximum pension payable to an Old Age Pensioner is two hundred and forty dollars a year and the pension is subject to reduction by the amount of the pensioner's income in excess of one hundred and twenty-five dollars a year.

The amended Act provides for the payment of a pension to every *blind* person aged forty years or over who, among other things is—

- (a) unmarried, or a widower without a child or children or a widow without a child or children and is not in receipt of an income of as much as four hundred and forty dollars a year, or
- (b) married, or a widower with a child or children, or a widow with a child or children and is not in receipt of an income of as much as six hundred and forty dollars a year.

The maximum pension payable to a blind person is two hundred and forty dollars a year except where a blind person marries another blind person after the coming into force of the amendment to the Act. In the latter case the maximum pension is one hundred and twenty dollars a year.

Pensions payable to blind persons are subject to reduction as follows—

- (a) in the case of an unmarried person or a widower without a child or children or a widow without a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year;
- (b) in the case of a married person or a widower with a child or children or a widow with a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of four hundred dollars a year;
- (c) in the case of a person married to a blind person receiving a pension under the Act, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year.

The Old Age Pensions Regulations provide that, where an applicant is one of two spouses living together, his or her income shall be taken to be equal to one-half of the sum of the incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (excluding any pension payable to the spouse under the Act) receivable by each of them separately. In calculating the income of a blind applicant who is married to and living with a spouse not in receipt of a pension in respect of blindness under the Act, the income of the applicant must be taken by the pension authority to be equal to the sum of their joint incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (including any Old Age Pension payable to the spouse) less the sum of one hundred and sixty-five dollars.

Any person who is receiving a pension in respect of blindness under the Pension Act or an allowance in respect of blindness under The War Veterans' Allowance Act is not eligible to receive a pension in respect of blindness under the Old Age Pensions Act.

## *2. Operation of Agreements*

Pensions for Blind Persons are administered by the provincial authorities under agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of the province. During the fiscal year 1937-38 the Governor in Council made an agreement with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of each of the nine provinces for the payment to the province quarterly of an amount equal to seventy-five per cent of the net sum paid out during the preceding quarter by the province for Pensions for Blind Persons. By Order in Council P.C. 656 dated March 30, 1938 the payment of Pensions for Blind Persons in the Northwest Territories was authorized as provided by section 6 of the Old Age Pensions Act.

The dates on which the Act became effective in the provinces and in the Northwest Territories are as follows—

Alberta.	March	7, 1938
British Columbia.	December	1, 1937
Manitoba.	September	1, 1937
New Brunswick.	September	1, 1937
Nova Scotia.	October	1, 1937
Ontario.	September	1, 1937
Prince Edward Island.	December	1, 1937
Quebec.	October	1, 1937
Saskatchewan.	November	15, 1937
Northwest Territories.	March	30, 1938

In each of the nine provinces Pensions for Blind Persons are administered by the pension authority previously appointed by the provincial government to administer Old Age Pensions.

### *3. Provincial Administration*

Any blind person who wishes to obtain a pension must apply to the officials appointed by the provincial government to receive applications. The provincial authorities must follow the same procedure as in the case of an applicant for an Old Age Pension and, by investigation, must obtain confirmation of the statements made by the applicant in his form of application. When the pension authority is satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements set forth in the Old Age Pensions Act and the Regulations made thereunder, the name of the applicant is forwarded to the Director Medical Services, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa. When the Department of Pensions and National Health has obtained satisfactory evidence that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and the pension authority has received a certificate to that effect, the pension authority may grant a pension to the applicant. Under the Regulations, however, the pension authority may refuse to grant a pension in any case where it is not satisfied that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act.

### *4. Dominion Administration*

The Regulations provide that no pension in respect of blindness shall be granted or paid by the pension authority until the pension authority has received a certificate from an officer of the Department of Pensions and National Health to the effect that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act.

Where the Department of Pensions and National Health finds it necessary to have the applicant examined the Department notifies the pension authority which in turn advises the applicant and completes the arrangements with the examining physician. In order to assist applicants the Department of Pensions and National Health has appointed a number of qualified ophthalmologists to make examinations in the different provinces and has made arrangements to have an ophthalmologist travel to any point within a province where ten or more applicants can be brought together for examination. All medical examinations are made without cost to the applicants but the applicants are required to bear the cost of transportation and living expenses incidental to their submitting themselves for such examinations.

The records of the pension authorities are subject to examination by the Department of Finance and the Auditor General of Canada.

### *5. Interprovincial Board*

When the Interprovincial Board met at Ottawa in November, 1937, a number of questions relating specifically to the administration of Pensions for Blind

Persons were considered and the Board had the advantage of discussing a number of these questions with officials of organizations representing the blind. Where applicable, the new regulations recommended by the Board and later approved by the Dominion and Provincial Governments apply to the administration of pensions to blind as well as to aged persons.

### 6. Financial and Statistical Summary

The following table (Table 6) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension in the provinces which paid Pensions for Blind Persons during the fiscal year 1937-38; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1938, for the fiscal year 1937-38 and from the inception of the Act to March 31, 1938.

TABLE 6.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

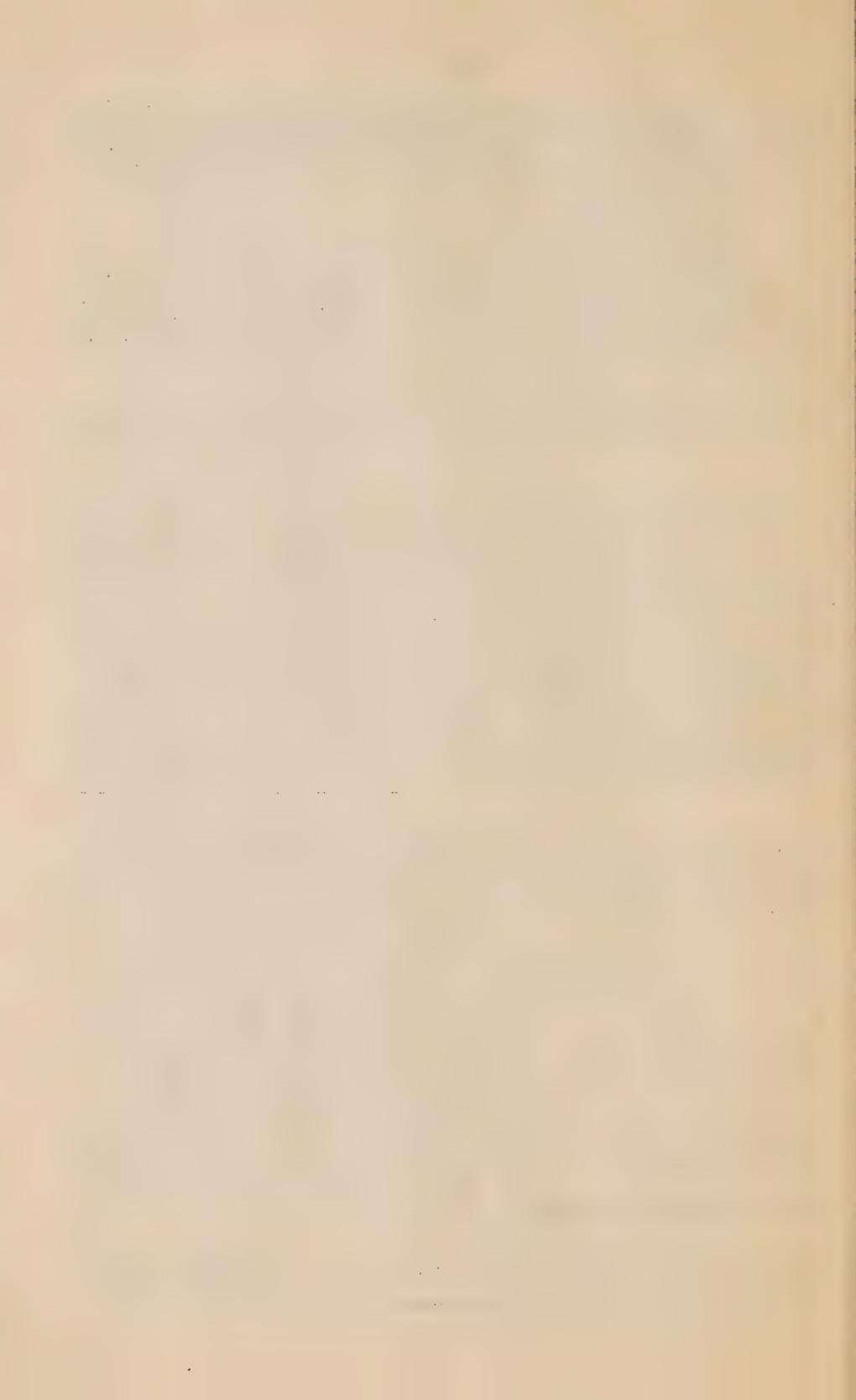
FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1938

	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937
Total number of pensioners.....	76	98	114	171	683
Average monthly pension.....	\$ 17 52	\$ 18 68	\$ 19 34	\$ 19 08	\$ 19 48
Dominion Government contributions quarter ending March 31, 1938.....	3,025 41	6,052 23	8,275 51	11,359 17	32,241 80
Dominion Government contributions for fiscal year April 1, 1937 to March 31, 1938.....	3,025 41	6,412 39	8,993 93	11,984 87	38,535 29
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to Old Age Pensions Act.....	3,025 41	6,412 39	8,993 93	11,984 87	38,535 29

TABLE 6.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1938

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Totals
	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Nov 15, 1937	
Total number of pensioners.....	41	710	53	1,946
Average monthly pension.....	\$ 14 07	\$ 19 57	\$ 19 79	\$ .....
Dominion Government contributions quarter ending March 31, 1938.....	660 12	48,707 36	1,777 76	112,099 36
Dominion Government contributions for fiscal year April 1, 1937 to March 31, 1938.....	660 12	57,028 48	1,777 76	128,418 25
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to Old Age Pensions Act.....	660 12	57,028 48	1,777 76	128,418 25



*Canada Malvern*  
1939-40  
(DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA)

Report on the

# Administration of Old Age Pensions in Canada

Under the provisions of the

## Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

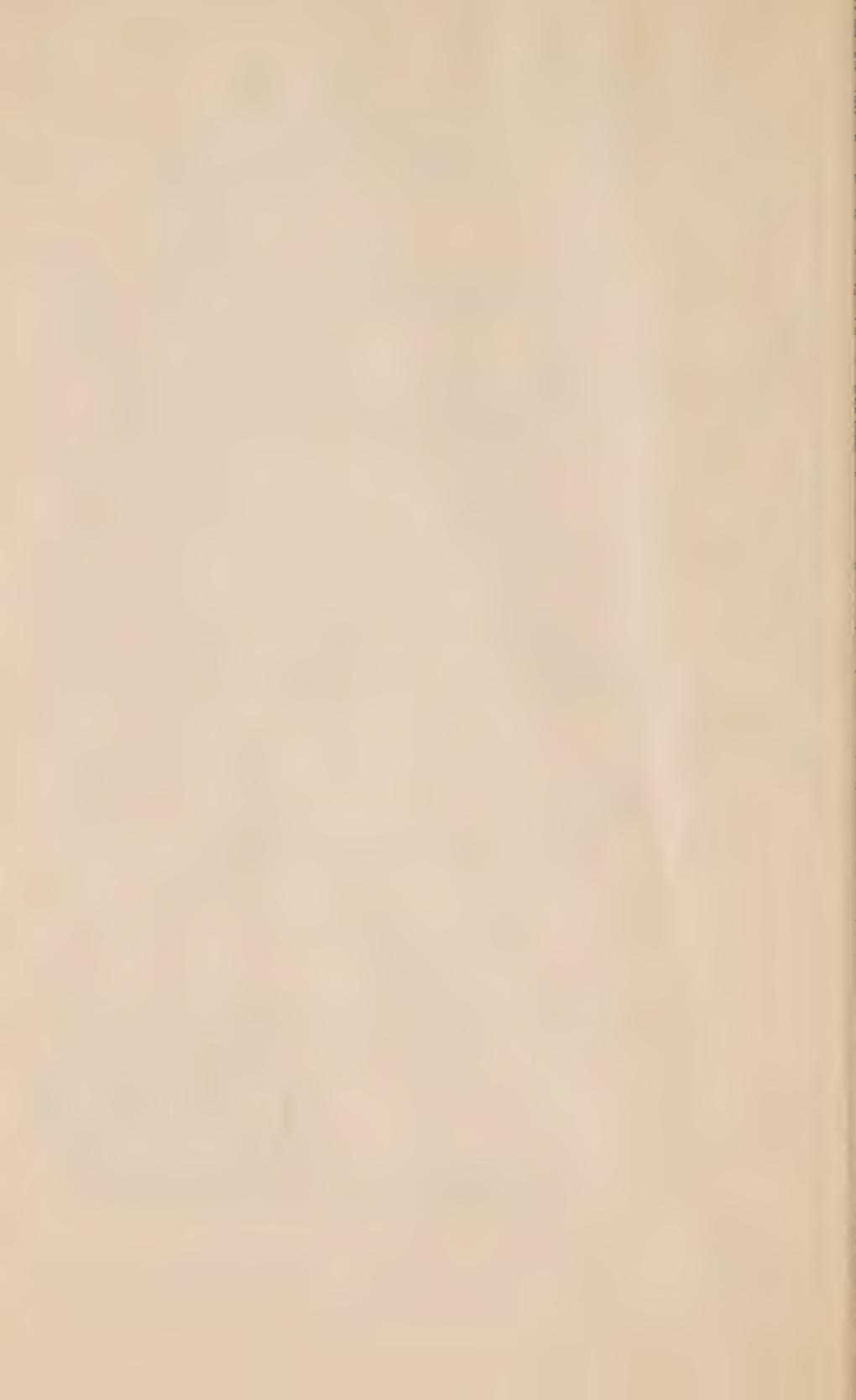
21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

*1939*  
Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1939

OTTAWA  
J. O. PATENAUME, I.S.O.  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1939





*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Lord Tweedsmuir, P.C., G.C.M.G.,  
C.H., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of  
Canada.*

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:**

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1939, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. A. DUNNING,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 25, 1939.

The Honourable CHARLES A. DUNNING,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1939, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 25, 1939.

## INDEX

	PAGE
Agreements with provinces,—	
(a) Old Age Pensions .....	7
(b) Pensions for Blind Persons .....	13
Contributions by Dominion,—	
(a) Old Age Pensions .....	10, 11
(b) Pensions for Blind Persons .....	14
Financial and statistical summary as at March 31, 1939,—	
(a) Old Age Pensions .....	11, 12
(b) Pensions for Blind Persons .....	14
Growth of Old Age Pensions in Canada .....	9
Number of pensioners,—	
(a) Old Age .....	10
(b) Blind .....	14
Pension authorities .....	7, 12
Percentage of Old Age Pensioners to population seventy years of age and over.....	10
Provisions of Old Age Pensions Act,—	.
(a) Old Age Pensions .....	7
(b) Pensions for Blind Persons .....	12
Regulations .....	9, 13
Statistical information .....	10, 11, 12, 14, 15



# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1938-39

## A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act*

The Old Age Pensions Act provides for the payment of pensions to British subjects residing in Canada who have attained the age of seventy years and who meet the other requirements set forth in the Act and the Regulations made thereunder. The Act is administered by the provincial authorities under agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the provinces. The maximum pension payable is two hundred and forty dollars yearly, which is subject to reduction by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of one hundred and twenty-five dollars a year. Persons who wish to obtain Old Age Pensions must apply to the provincial pension authority appointed by the government of the province in which they reside. The provincial pension authority must decide whether or not each applicant is eligible to receive a pension and, if the applicant is eligible to receive a pension, the amount of pension to be granted. Pensions are payable only to persons who are not in receipt of an income of as much as three hundred and sixty-five dollars a year. The Dominion contributes seventy-five per cent of the net amount paid out for Old Age Pensions and the provinces pay the remaining twenty-five per cent and the cost of administration. The Dominion is solely responsible for the payment of Old Age Pensions to persons residing in the Northwest Territories.

### 2. *Agreements*

During the fiscal year April 1, 1938, to March 31, 1939, Old Age Pensions were paid in the nine provinces and in the Northwest Territories. Under the Act, the Yukon Territory is defined as a "provincie" and an agreement must be made by the Gold Commissioner of the Yukon with the Governor in Council before pensions can be paid to persons residing within the Yukon Territory. A proposal to enter into such an agreement has been made on several occasions but the Yukon Territorial Council has not favoured the adoption of an Old Age Pensions scheme and pensions are not now being paid in the Yukon Territory. The dates from which the Old Age Pensions Act became effective in the nine provinces and in the Northwest Territories are as follows:—

Alberta .....	August 1, 1929
British Columbia.....	September 1, 1927
Manitoba .....	September 1, 1928
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936
Nova Scotia.....	March 1, 1934
Ontario .....	November 1, 1929
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933
Quebec .....	August 1, 1936
Saskatchewan .....	May 1, 1928
Northwest Territories.....	January 25, 1929

### 3. *Pension Authorities*

In each of the nine provinces the Provincial Government has appointed a pension authority to administer the Old Age Pensions Act. In five of the

provinces, namely, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, a separate board or commission has been appointed to administer the Act. In certain of these provinces the Board or Commission is also responsible for the administration of provincial social legislation such as Mothers' Allowances. In Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia the Workmen's Compensation Boards have been appointed by the Provincial Governments to administer the Act. In Saskatchewan the minister in charge of the administration of the Act is the pension authority.

Under the provincial schemes for the administration of the Old Age Pensions Act persons who wish to apply for pensions may be required to make application either to the pension authority or to some persons or bodies appointed by the pension authority to accept applications. In each case the decision as to the eligibility of the applicant to receive a pension rests with the provincial pension authority but under no circumstances may the pension authority grant a pension to an applicant until such time as a proper investigation of the applicant's claim for pension has been made by the pension authority or by an agency appointed by the pension authority to make such investigations.

The records of the pension authorities are subject to examination by the Department of Finance and the Auditor General of Canada.

Persons residing in the Northwest Territories who wish to obtain Old Age Pensions must address their applications to the Department of Finance, Ottawa. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police make investigations for the Department.

Persons who wish to communicate with the provincial pension authorities should write to the following officials:—

Alberta .....	V. W. Wright, M.D., Chairman, Workmen's Compensation Board, Edmonton, Alberta.
British Columbia.....	E. S. H. Winn, Esq., Chairman, Workmen's Compensation Board, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, B.C.
Manitoba .....	Major C. K. Newcombe, Chairman, Workmen's Compensation Board, 604 Telephone Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
New Brunswick.....	W. P. Jones, Esq., Director of Old Age Pensions, Fredericton, N.B.
Nova Scotia.....	Ernest H. Blois, Esq., Director of Old Age Pensions, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
Ontario .....	J. A. Faulkner, M.D., Chairman, Old Age Pensions Commission, Department of Public Welfare, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ontario.
Prince Edward Island.....	O. W. Campbell, Esq., Superintendent, Old Age Pensions Commission, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Quebec .....	J. R. Forest, Esq., President, Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec, P.Q.
Saskatchewan .....	W. C. Mills, Esq., Commissioner, Old Age Pensions Branch, 304 Darke Block, Regina, Saskatchewan.

#### 4. Old Age Pensions Regulations

The Old Age Pensions Act authorizes the Governor in Council to make regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act. Among other things the Governor in Council is authorized to provide by regulation for the constitution and powers of an interprovincial board to interpret and recommend alterations in the regulations.

Following a meeting of the Interprovincial Board in November, 1937, a number of the regulations were amended. The new regulations were approved by the Governor in Council and the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces and became effective upon publication in *The Canada Gazette* of January 8, 1938. Subsequently the Dominion submitted an amendment to Regulation 18 for the approval of each province. The amendment was approved by Order in Council P.C. 250, dated February 3, 1938, and became effective upon publication in *The Canada Gazette* of February 26, 1938.

The changes which were made in the regulations on the recommendation of the Interprovincial Board were set forth in the report on the administration of Old Age Pensions for the fiscal year 1937-38. The regulations have undoubtedly resulted in greater uniformity in dealing with applications for pensions and have assisted a number of persons to qualify for pensions who were debarred from receiving pensions under the old regulations. At the next meeting of the Interprovincial Board any proposed amendments to the regulations will be given careful consideration.

#### 5. Growth of Old Age Pensions in Canada

Since the Old Age Pensions Act was passed by Parliament and assented to on March 31, 1927, the Dominion's contributions have increased rapidly. In comparing the expenditure for different years it should be borne in mind that the adoption of the scheme by one or more provinces in any year naturally resulted in a marked increase in the number of pensioners and the amount of the Dominion's contributions. While the greater proportion of the increase in the expenditure may be explained by the fact that additional provinces have adopted the scheme between the year 1927 and the year 1936, statistics indicate that there is also a steady increase in the number of pensioners in all provinces and that the proportion of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over is also increasing. The following table (Table 1) shows the percentage of Old Age Pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1934-35, 1936-37, 1937-38 and 1938-39:—

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Date Act effective	Year ending Mar. 31, 1935	Year ending Mar. 31, 1937	Year ending Mar. 31, 1938	Year ending Mar. 31, 1939
Alberta.....	Aug. 1, 1929	43.04	50.55	52.83	55.04
British Columbia.....	Sept. 1, 1927	37.18	40.09	42.55	45.82
Manitoba.....	Sept. 1, 1928	49.75	52.54	52.70	53.94
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936	.....	54.46	59.61	61.61
Nova Scotia.....	Mar. 1, 1934	46.32	49.84	50.66	51.88
Ontario.....	Nov. 1, 1929	33.00	34.54	35.16	35.82
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933	25.34	30.48	31.07	32.31
Quebec.....	Aug. 1, 1936	.....	23.81	48.37	49.67
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928	49.85	51.98	53.35	55.17

The percentages for the fiscal year 1934-35 are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1, 1934, and for the fiscal years 1936-37, 1937-38 and 1938-39, on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1, 1936, June 1, 1937 and June 1, 1938, respectively. The figures are, of course, approximate as these calculations must be made on the basis of the estimated population in this particular age group.

The number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1927-28 to 1938-39 and the Dominion's contributions during the same period are shown in the following tables (Tables 2 and 3):—

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1938-39

—	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
Alberta.....		2,017	3,287	4,382	5,244	6,286	7,151	8,086	9,100	9,726	10,175	
British Columbia.....	2,712	3,867	4,576	5,557	6,486	7,128	8,095	9,076	10,011	10,824	11,563	12,504
Manitoba.....		3,953	5,104	5,834	7,190	8,280	9,236	10,229	10,862	11,559	11,800	12,128
New Brunswick.....							6,509	12,241	13,044	13,456	13,827	14,221
Nova Scotia.....								46,281	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530
Ontario.....		26,370	37,334	41,300	42,853	46,281	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530	58,858	
Prince Edward Island.....							1,258	1,439	1,659	1,768	1,811	1,891
Quebec.....									22,620	46,490	47,939	
Saskatchewan.....		2,768	4,482	5,913	7,643	8,195	9,203	10,137	10,706	11,436	11,775	12,227
Northwest Territories.....			4	5	5	5	5	7	7	8	9	7
	2,712	10,588	42,553	57,930	67,006	71,705	86,873	101,051	108,415	146,524	175,673	181,514

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1938-39

—	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....			62,555 15	320,363 50	645,367 48	827,830 32
British Columbia.....	131,452 01	399,340 95	357,801 04	580,841 45	1,032,840 50	1,176,242 75
Manitoba.....		242,303 86	427,143 44	652,803 80	1,128,222 34	1,362,137 75
New Brunswick.....						
Nova Scotia.....			355,828 97	3,516,805 90	6,039,971 87	6,827,955 49
Ontario.....						
Prince Edward Island.....						
Quebec.....						
Saskatchewan.....		191,041 97	333,287 21	585,940 81	1,184,539 97	1,316,956 68
Northwest Territories.....			557 74	1,387 06	1,467 71	1,419 74
	131,452 01	832,686 78	1,537,173 55	5,658,142 52	10,032,409 87	11,512,542 73

	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	Total
	\$ cts.						
Alberta.....	934,387 91	1,070,901 17	1,224,104 53	1,409,059 79	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24	9,712,708 56
British Columbia.....	1,304,144 08	1,478,313 72	1,672,830 60	1,823,267 82	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36	13,984,026 29
Manitoba.....	1,516,372 06	1,655,855 90	1,797,144 68	1,922,415 33	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	14,694,007 44
New Brunswick.....							
Nova Scotia.....	69,270 71	1,479,899 16	1,681,101 81	1,764,915 17	1,836,704 48	1,866,723 83	8,678,615 14
Ontario.....	7,085,839 82	7,671,618 81	8,677,034 05	9,146,837 58	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34	68,465,112 53
Prince Edward Island.....	74,125 02	128,855 76	148,007 47	161,527 62	167,330 39	179,121 07	858,967 33
Quebec.....							
Saskatchewan.....	1,328,057 28	1,455,195 60	1,582,804 89	1,706,190 29	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	13,263,097 39
Northwest Territories.....	1,398 07	1,719 24	1,655 84	1,722 57	1,714 56	1,898 91	14,941 44
	12,313,594 93	14,942,459 36	16,764,483 87	21,149,351 52	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11	151,682,168 48

\*Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

The figures shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3 indicate that with each passing year, a greater percentage of the population seventy years of age and over apparently finds it necessary to apply for pensions. It should be borne in mind that the figures shown in Table 3 do not include amounts paid out by the provinces which paid fifty per cent of the cost of pensions up to November 1, 1931, and twenty-five per cent thereafter. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions the provinces are required to pay the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of pensions for the country as a whole, for the fiscal year 1938-39, may be estimated at approximately thirty-nine million dollars.

## 6. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1939, the Dominion's contribution to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1939, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1939, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1938:—

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1939

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective March 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	10,175	12,504	12,128	11,564	14,221	58,858
Average monthly pension.....	\$18.44	19.27	18.66	14.16	14.71	18.51
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.30	1.64	1.68	2.60	2.60	1.58
*Percentage of persons over 70 yrs. of age to total population.....	2.36	3.59	3.12	4.22	5.00	4.40
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	55.04	45.82	53.94	61.61	51.88	35.82
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1939.....	\$420,929 26	523,955 75	502,406 45	369,403 62	472,559 69	2,430,695 92
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1938 to March 31, 1939.....	\$1,657,567 24	2,071,000 36	1,992,400 38	1,440,354 10	1,866,723 83	9,615,751 34
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.....	\$9,712,708 56	13,984,026 29	14,694,007 44	3,642,335 67	8,678,615 14	68,465,112 53

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1938—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1939

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928	Order-in-Council effective Jan. 25, 1929	
Number of pensioners.....	1,891	47,939	12,227	7	181,514
Average monthly pension.....	\$10.94	17.85	16.59	20.00	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.	2.01	1.51	1.30	.07	
*Percentage of persons over 70 yrs. of age to total population.	6.23	3.04	2.36	1.21	
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 yrs. of age.	32.31	49.67	55.17	5.79	
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1939.	\$46,084 37	1,915,408 51	459,067 97	414.54	7,141,226 08
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1938 to March 31, 1939.	\$179,121 07	7,637,019 04	1,821,447 84	1,898 91	28,283,284 11
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.	\$858,967 33	18,368,356 69	13,263,097 39	14,941 44	151,682,168 48

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1938—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

## B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### 1. Provisions of Amendment to Old Age Pensions Act

The Old Age Pensions Act was amended in 1937 to provide for the payment of pensions to blind persons who have attained the age of forty years and who meet the other requirements set forth in the Act and the Regulations made thereunder. Pensions for Blind Persons are administered by the provincial authorities under agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the provinces. In each province the pension authority appointed by the provincial government to administer Old Age Pensions also administers Pensions for Blind Persons.

Blind persons who wish to obtain pensions must apply to the provincial pension authority appointed by the government of the province in which they reside. The decision regarding the eligibility of each applicant to receive a pension rests with the pension authority but before a pension may be granted to any applicant the pension authority must have a certificate from the Director Medical Services, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa, to the effect that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act. Under the Regulations the pension authority may refuse to grant a pension in any case where it is not satisfied that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act.

The maximum pension payable to a blind person under the Act is two hundred and forty dollars yearly except where a blind person marries another blind person after the coming into force of the amendment to the Act. In such a case the maximum pension is one hundred and twenty dollars a year.

Pensions payable to blind persons are subject to reduction as follows:—

- (a) in the case of an unmarried person or a widower without a child or children or a widow without a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year;
- (b) in the case of a married person or a widower with a child or children or a widow with a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of four hundred dollars a year;
- (c) in the case of a person married to a blind person receiving a pension under the Act, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year.

The Old Age Pensions Regulations provide that, where an applicant is one of two spouses living together, his or her income shall be taken to be equal to

one-half of the sum of the incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (excluding any pension payable to the spouse under the Act) receivable by each of them separately. In calculating the income of a blind applicant who is married to and living with a spouse not in receipt of a pension in respect of blindness under the Act, the income of the applicant must be taken by the pension authority to be equal to the sum of their joint incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (including any Old Age Pension payable to the spouse) less the sum of one hundred and sixty-five dollars.

Any person who is receiving a pension in respect of blindness under the Pension Act or an allowance in respect of blindness under The War Veterans' Allowance Act is not eligible to receive a pension in respect of blindness under the Old Age Pensions Act.

The Dominion contributes seventy-five per cent of the net amount paid out for Pensions for Blind Persons. The provinces pay the remaining twenty-five per cent and the cost of provincial administration. The Dominion is solely responsible for the payment of Pensions for Blind Persons in the Northwest Territories.

## *2. Agreements*

During the fiscal year 1937-38 agreements were made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces for the payment of Pensions for Blind Persons. An agreement was also made by the Governor in Council with the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

The dates on which the Act became effective in the provinces and in the Northwest Territories are as follows:—

Alberta .....	March 7, 1938
British Columbia .....	December 1, 1937
Manitoba .....	September 1, 1937
New Brunswick .....	September 1, 1937
Nova Scotia .....	October 1, 1937
Ontario .....	September 1, 1937
Prince Edward Island .....	December 1, 1937
Quebec .....	October 1, 1937
Saskatchewan .....	November 15, 1937
Northwest Territories .....	March 30, 1938

## *3. Regulations Governing Pensions for Blind Persons*

When considering applications for pensions in respect of blindness the provincial pension authority must take into account the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Regulations with regard to the method of making application for pension, the applicant's residence in Canada and in the province, the investigation of his claim for a pension, proof of age and nationality, transfer of property, date of the commencement of the pension, incapacity of the pensioner, suspension of the pension, increase or reduction of the pension, management of the pensioner's property and the paying and recording of the pension. As has been explained in section B. 1, the income which a pensioner may receive without affecting his pension is more generous in the case of an application for a pension in respect of blindness than in the case of an application for an Old Age Pension. The pension authority, however, must follow the procedure required by the regulations when calculating the amount of the pensioner's income.

The regulations fix the visual acuity which will permit an applicant to qualify for a pension in respect of blindness and set forth the procedure to be followed by the applicant with regard to the examination of his eyes by an ophthalmologist appointed by the Department of Pensions and National Health. It is provided in the regulations that the medical examination shall be made without cost to the applicant but that the applicant must bear the cost of trans-

portation and living expenses incidental to his submitting himself for such examination.

Under the regulations any person who is receiving an Old Age Pension may apply for a pension in respect of blindness. In no case, however, may a pensioner receive an Old Age Pension and a pension in respect of blindness.

The following table (Table 5) shows the number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness at the end of the fiscal years 1937-38 and 1938-39 and the Dominion's contributions for Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal years 1937-38 and 1938-39:—

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 AND 1938-39 AND DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 AND 1938-39

Province	Number of Pensioners		Dominion's Contributions	
	1937-38	1938-39	1937-38	1938-39
Alberta.....		146		\$ 19,289 81
British Columbia.....	76	232	3,025 41	37,323 55
Manitoba.....	98	206	6,412 39	33,506 77
New Brunswick.....	114	510	8,993 93	86,516 77
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	11,984 87	74,418 04
Ontario.....	633	1,154	38,535 29	199,162 73
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	660 12	10,518 23
Quebec.....	710	1,453	57,028 48	263,451 54
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	1,777 76	36,166 98
	1,946	4,512	128,418 25	760,354 42

#### 4. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons

The following table (Table 6) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1938-39; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1939, for the fiscal year 1938-39 and from the inception of the Act to March 31, 1939:—

TABLE 6.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1939

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia
	Act effective Mar. 7, 1938	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	146	232	206	510	493
Average monthly pension.....	\$19.44	19.41	19.37	19.59	19.04
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1939.....	\$ 6,368 55	10,022 67	8,909 68	22,883 42	20,757 27
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1938, to March 31, 1939.....	\$ 19,289 81	37,323 55	33,506 77	86,516 77	74,418 04
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$ 19,289 81	40,348 96	39,919 16	95,510 70	86,402 91

	Ontario	P.E.I.	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Totals
	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Nov. 15, 1937	
Number of pensioners.....	1,154	104	1,453	214	4,512
Average monthly pension.....	\$19.53	13.99	19.51	19.85	
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1939.....	\$ 51,125 61	3,255 17	65,624 60	10,111 82	199,058 79
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1938, to March 31, 1939.....	\$ 199,162 73	10,518 23	263,451 54	36,166 98	760,354 42
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$ 237,698 02	11,178 35	320,480 02	37,944 74	888,772 67

TABLE 7.—RECAPITULATION

Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons as at March 31, 1939

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age	Blind			
Alberta.....	10,175	146	10,321	9,712,708 56	19,289 81	9,731,998 37		
British Columbia.....	12,504	232	12,736	13,984,026 29	40,348 96	14,024,375 25		
Manitoba.....	12,128	206	12,334	14,694,007 44	39,919 16	14,733,926 60		
New Brunswick.....	11,564	510	12,074	3,642,335 67	95,510 70	3,737,846 37		
Nova Scotia.....	14,221	493	14,714	8,678,615 14	86,402 91	8,765,018 05		
Ontario.....	58,858	1,154	60,012	68,465,112 53	237,698 02	68,702,810 55		
Prince Edward Island.....	1,891	104	1,995	858,967 33	11,178 35	870,145 68		
Quebec.....	47,939	1,453	49,392	18,368,356 69	310,480 02	18,688,836 71		
Saskatchewan.....	12,227	214	12,441	13,263,097 39	37,944 74	13,301,042 13		
Northwest Territories.....	7	.....	7	14,941 44	.....	14,941 44		
	181,514	4,512	186,026	151,682,168 48	888,772 67	152,570,941 15		

TABLE 8.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 AND 1938-39

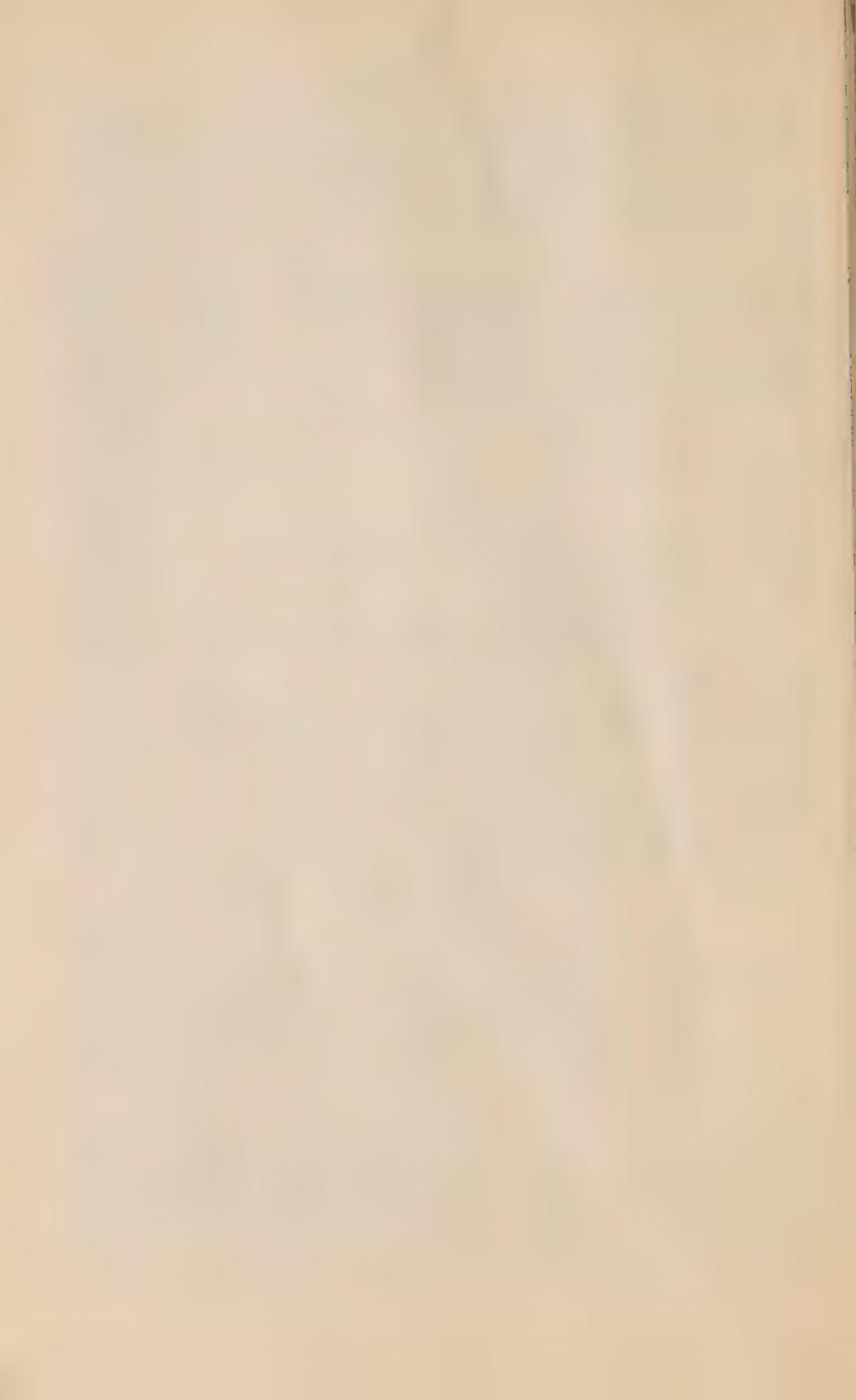
	Number of Pensioners as at Mar. 31, 1938	Number of Pensioners as at Mar. 31, 1939	Net Increase in number of Pensioners during Year	Dominion Contributions Fiscal Year 1937-38	Dominion Contributions Fiscal Year 1938-39	Net Increase in Amount of Dominion's Contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							Mar. 31, 1938	Mar. 31, 1939
							\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	9,726	10,175	449	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24	96,995 77	18 30	18 44
British Columbia.....	11,563	12,504	941	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36	115,049 35	19 18	19 27
Manitoba.....	11,800	12,128	328	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	-4,707 52	18 66	18 66
New Brunswick.....	11,142	11,564	422	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10	106,680 83	13 68	14 16
Nova Scotia.....	13,287	14,221	394	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83	30,019 37	14 64	14 71
Ontario.....	57,530	58,858	1,328	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34	88,282 64	18 43	18 51
Prince Edward Island.....	1,811	1,891	~0	167,330 39	179,121 07	11,790 65	10 63	10 94
Quebec.....	46,490	47,939	1,449	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04	-749,211 56	17 84	17 85
Saskatchewan.....	11,775	12,227	452	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	63,612 97	16 45	16 59
Northwest Territories.....	9	7	-2	1,714 58	1,898 91	184 35	19 20	20 00
	175,673	181,514	5,841	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11	-241,303 12	.....	.....

\*Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38

TABLE 9.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 AND 1938-39

	Number of Pensioners as at Mar. 31, 1938	Number of Pensioners as at Mar. 31, 1939	Net Increase in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion Contributions Fiscal Year 1937-38	Dominion Contributions Fiscal Year 1938-39	Net Increase in Amount of Dominion's Contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							Mar. 31, 1938	Mar. 31, 1939
							\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....		146	146			19,289 81	19,289 81	19 44
British Columbia.....	76	232	156	3,025 41	37,323 55	34,298 14	17 52	19 41
Manitoba.....	98	206	108	6,412 39	33,506 77	27,094 38	18 68	19 37
New Brunswick.....	114	510	396	8,993 93	86,516 77	77,522 84	19 34	19 59
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	322	11,984 87	74,418 04	62,433 17	19 08	19 04
Ontario.....	683	1,154	471	38,535 29	199,162 73	160,627 44	19 48	19 53
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	63	660 12	10,518 23	9,858 11	14 07	13 99
Quebec.....	710	1,453	743	57,028 48	263,451 54	206,423 06	19 57	19 51
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	161	1,777 76	36,166 98	34,389 22	19 79	19 85
Northwest Territories.....							.....	.....
	1,946	4,512	2,566	128,418 25	760,354 42	631,936 17	.....	.....



REU. 67  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA

NW  
-REI

Report on the

Administration of Old Age Pensions  
AND  
Pensions For Blind Persons  
In Canada

Under the provisions of the

Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

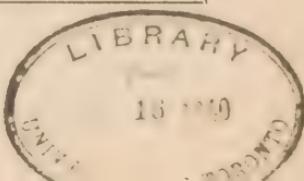
1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

1940/70  

---

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1940

OTTAWA  
J. O. PATENAUME, I.S.O.  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1940





*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Lyman P. Duff, P.C., G.C.M.G.,  
Administrator of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1940, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. RALSTON,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1940.

The Honourable J. L. RALSTON,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1940, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1940.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations.....	7
2. Agreements with Provinces .....	8
3. Provincial pension authorities .....	9
4. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations during fiscal year.....	10
5. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada.....	11
6. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	13

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations.....	14
2. Agreement with Provinces .....	15
3. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	16
4. Medical examination of applicants .....	17
5. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons in Canada.....	17
6. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	19



# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1939-40

## A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations with reference to old age pensions.

The Old Age Pensions Act provides for the payment of a pension to every person who, at the date of the proposed commencement of the pension

- (a) is a British subject, or, being a widow, who is not a British subject, was such before her marriage;
- (b) has attained the age of seventy years;
- (c) has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date aforesaid;
- (d) has resided in the province in which the application for pension is made for the five years immediately preceding the said date;
- (e) is not an Indian as defined by the Indian Act;
- (f) is not in receipt of an income of as much as three hundred and sixty-five dollars a year, and
- (g) has not made any voluntary assignment or transfer of property for the purpose of qualifying for a pension.

The Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the authority of section 19 of the Act and approved by the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces provide, among other things, that an applicant shall be deemed to have been resident in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension only

- (a) if he has actually lodged within Canada on at least 5,844 days within the said twenty years; and
- (b) if he has actually lodged within Canada on at least 700 days within the last three years of the said twenty years; and
- (c) if he has lodged within Canada some time at least twenty years prior to making application.

The Regulations also provide that an applicant shall be deemed to have resided in the province in which the application for pension is made for the five years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension if he is then residing in the province, and if he has lodged therein on at least 700 days in the said five years.

In the Regulations the word "lodge" means to be present in person.

The maximum pension payable is two hundred and forty dollars yearly, which is subject to reduction by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of one hundred and twenty-five dollars a year.

An application for a pension may be made at any time after the applicant has reached the age of sixty-nine years and nine months.

The Regulations provide that every pension shall commence on the first day of the month following the month in which all necessary information and proofs have been furnished to the satisfaction of the pension authority or on the first day of the month following the month in which the applicant first becomes entitled, whichever is the later. No pension may be paid for any period of more than one month during which the applicant is receiving direct relief out of moneys provided in whole or in part by the Dominion, the province or a municipality.

The Act provides that a pension authority shall be entitled to recover out of the estate of any deceased pensioner, as a debt due by the pensioner to such authority, the sum of the pension payments made to such pensioner from time to time, together with interest at the rate of five per cent per annum compounded annually. No claim may be made by the pension authority, however, for the recovery of such debt directly or indirectly out of any part of the pensioner's estate which passes by will or on an intestacy to any other pensioner or to any person who has, since the grant of the pension or for the last three years during which the pension has continued to be paid, regularly contributed to the support of the pensioner by the payment of money or otherwise to an extent which, having regard to the means of the person so having contributed, is considered by the pension authority to be reasonable.

Where a pensioner has during part of the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension resided in more than one province in which he would have become pensionable if he had continued to reside therein, the province in which the pension is granted is entitled to be reimbursed, by the other province or provinces in which the pensioner has resided as aforesaid, a proportion of the pension equal to the proportion which the duration of the pensioner's residence in such other province bears to twenty years.

After the grant of a pension in any province the pensioner may reside in any part of Canada and continue to receive his pension. If, however, after the grant of a pension, the pensioner transfers his residence to some place out of Canada, his pension ceases but his right thereto revives upon his again becoming resident in Canada.

The Regulations provide that the payment of a pension shall be suspended—  
 (a) during the lawful imprisonment of a pensioner for an offence;  
 (b) as soon as a pensioner has been absent from Canada for more than thirty consecutive days and until his return to Canada;  
 (c) during the period that a pensioner refuses or fails to give the pension authority any information required by the pension authority.

If, after the granting of a pension, a pensioner makes any voluntary assignment or transfer of real or personal property without the approval of the pension authority the payment of his pension may be suspended until the aggregate amount of the suspended payments equals the value of the real or personal property assigned or transferred at the time of assignment or transfer.

Under the provisions of the Act no pension is subject to alienation or transfer by the pensioner, or to seizure in satisfaction of any claim against him.

The Act provides that the receipt of an Old Age Pension shall not by itself constitute a disqualification from voting at any provincial or municipal election.

All sums payable to any province in pursuance of any agreement made under the Old Age Pensions Act are payable from time to time on the certificate of the Minister of Finance out of any moneys belonging to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada not otherwise appropriated.

## *2. Agreements*

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that the Governor in Council may make an agreement with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of any province for the payment to such province quarterly of an amount equal to seventy-five per centum of the net sum paid out during the preceding quarter by such province for pensions pursuant to a provincial statute authorizing and providing for the payment of such pensions to the persons and under the conditions specified in the Dominion Old Age Pensions Act and the regulations made thereunder.

The Act also provides that every such agreement shall continue in force so long as the provincial statute remains in operation or until after the expiration of

ten years from the date upon which notice of an intention to determine the agreement is given by the Governor General to the Lieutenant-Governor of the province with which the same was made.

Before any agreement made pursuant to the Act comes into operation the scheme for the administration of pensions proposed to be adopted by the province has to be approved by the Governor in Council and no change in the scheme may be made by the province without the consent of the Governor in Council.

The Act further provides that as soon as agreements have been made with two of the provinces adjoining the Northwest Territories, the Commissioner of the said territories may submit to the Governor in Council for approval a scheme for the administration and payment of pensions therein, and that upon the approval of such scheme, the same shall stand, in all respects other than its duration, in the same position as an agreement with a province.

By the terms of agreements made pursuant to the Act the payment of Old Age Pensions became effective in the nine provinces and in the Northwest Territories upon the following dates:—

Alberta . . . . .	August 1, 1929
British Columbia . . . . .	September 1, 1927
Manitoba . . . . .	September 1, 1928
New Brunswick . . . . .	July 1, 1936
Nova Scotia . . . . .	March 1, 1934
Ontario . . . . .	November 1, 1929
Prince Edward Island . . . . .	July 1, 1933
Quebec . . . . .	August 1, 1936
Saskatchewan . . . . .	May 1, 1928
Northwest Territories . . . . .	January 25, 1929

During the fiscal year April 1, 1939 to March 31, 1940, the agreements continued in force. The amounts which the Dominion paid under the agreements to the provinces and to persons residing within the Northwest Territories during the fiscal year April 1, 1939 to March 31, 1940, are shown in Table IV.

In the Old Age Pensions Act the Yukon Territory is defined as a "province" and an agreement must be made by the Governor in Council with the Gold Commissioner of the Yukon before pensions can be paid to persons residing in that part of Canada. A proposal to enter into such an agreement has been made on several occasions but the Yukon Territorial Council has not favoured the adoption of the Old Age Pensions scheme and pensions are not now being paid in the Yukon Territory.

### 3. Pension Authorities

The Old Age Pensions Act is administered in the provinces by pension authorities appointed by the Provincial Governments. The following boards, commissions or branches of the Provincial Governments are responsible for the administration of the Act—

Alberta . . . . .	The Workmen's Compensation Board, Edmonton. Chairman—V. W. Wright, M.D. <i>On and after April 1, 1940</i>
	The Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton. Chairman—J. F. Percival, Esq.
British Columbia . . . . .	The Workmen's Compensation Board, Vancouver. Chairman—E. S. H. Winn, Esq.
Manitoba . . . . .	The Workmen's Compensation Board, Winnipeg. Chairman—Major C. K. Newcombe.
New Brunswick . . . . .	The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton. Chairman—W. P. Jones, Esq.
Nova Scotia . . . . .	The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax. Chairman—Ernest H. Blois, Esq.
Ontario . . . . .	The Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto. Chairman—J. A. Faulkner, M.D.

Prince Edward Island .. .	The Old Age Pensions Commission, Charlottetown.
	Chairman—Peter D. Trainor, Esq.
Quebec... . . . .	The Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.
	President—J. R. Forest, Esq.
Saskatchewan... . . . .	The Old Age Pensions Branch, Regina.
	Commissioner—W. C. Mills, Esq.

During the fiscal year April 1, 1939 to March 31, 1940, the Government of the Province of Alberta requested the Governor in Council to approve a change in the provincial scheme whereby the province would create an Old Age Pensions Board to administer Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons in place of the Workmen's Compensation Board. The proposed change in the provincial scheme was approved by Orders in Council P.C. 468 dated February 9, 1940 and P.C. 1178 dated March 25, 1940. The change in the provincial scheme became effective on April 1, 1940.

Under the provincial schemes for the administration of the Old Age Pensions Act persons who wish to apply for pensions may be required to make application either to the pension authority or to some persons or bodies appointed by the pension authority to accept applications. In each case the decision as to the eligibility of the applicant to receive a pension rests with the provincial pension authority. Under no circumstances may the pension authority grant a pension to an applicant until such time as a proper investigation of the applicant's claim for pension has been made by the pension authority or by an agency appointed by the pension authority to make such investigations.

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that the acceptance by any province of the moneys granted by Parliament for the payment of Old Age Pensions shall be subject to the conditions that the Governor in Council shall have authority to order an examination, inspection and audit of all expenditures of such moneys in the province and the accounts with respect thereto, and that the province shall permit the inspection in such examination of all papers and documents relating to such payments.

The records upon which the decisions of the provincial pension authorities are based are subject to examination by officers of the Department of Finance. From time to time the records of the provinces are also examined by a representative of the Auditor General of Canada.

Persons residing in the Northwest Territories who wish to obtain Old Age Pensions must address their applications to the Department of Finance, Ottawa. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police make investigations for the Department.

#### *4. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations*

Under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act the Governor in Council may make regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act. The Act further provides that no regulation by reference to which any agreement with a province has been made shall be altered except with the consent of such province or in accordance with the provisions of the regulations to which it has agreed.

Following a meeting of the Interprovincial Board in November, 1937, a number of the regulations were amended. The regulations recommended by the Interprovincial Board and approved by the Governor in Council and the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces provided, among other things, that an applicant for pension must have lodged within Canada on at least 700 days within the last two years of the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of the pension. In the regulations the word "lodge" means to be present in person. After this regulation had been in force for some time it became apparent that it was causing hardship in a number of cases where the applicants were unable to qualify for pensions on account of absences from Canada during the two years prior to the date on which they applied for pensions. In certain cases the applicants had never previously

been outside of Canada. It was generally agreed that the regulations should be amended and, therefore, the Dominion proposed an amendment which was approved by the nine provinces. Under the amended regulation an applicant for pension must have lodged within Canada on at least 700 days within the last three years of the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of the pension. The amended regulation came into operation on December 2, 1939, the date of publication in the *Canada Gazette*.

### 5. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada

During the fiscal year April 1, 1939 to March 31, 1940, the Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of Old Age Pensions amounted to \$29,080,630.90. The number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1940, was 186,035.

Statistics on Old Age Pensions indicate that there is a steady increase in the proportion of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over in each of the nine provinces. The following table (Table 1) shows the percentage of Old Age Pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1934-35, 1936-37, 1937-38, 1938-39 and 1939-40.

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Date Act effective	Year ending Mar. 31, 1935	Year ending Mar. 31, 1937	Year ending Mar. 31, 1938	Year ending Mar. 31, 1939	Year ending Mar. 31, 1940
Alberta.....	Aug. 1, 1929	43.04	50.55	52.83	55.04	57.45
British Columbia.....	Sept. 1, 1927	37.18	40.09	42.55	45.82	48.80
Manitoba.....	Sept. 1, 1928	49.75	52.54	52.70	53.94	55.57
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936.....	54.46	59.61	61.61	62.61	
Nova Scotia.....	Mar. 1, 1934	46.32	49.84	50.66	51.88	52.63
Ontario.....	Nov. 1, 1929	33.00	34.54	35.16	35.82	36.16
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933	25.34	30.48	31.07	32.31	34.11
Quebec.....	Aug. 1, 1936.....	23.81	48.37	49.67	50.29	
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928	49.85	51.98	53.35	55.17	56.41

The percentages for the fiscal year 1934-35 are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1, 1934, and for the fiscal years 1936-37, 1937-38, 1938-39 and 1939-40 on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1, 1936, June 1, 1937, June 1, 1938 and June 1, 1939 respectively. The figures are, of course, approximate as these calculations must be made on the basis of the estimated population in this particular age group.

The number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1927-28 to 1939-40 and the Dominion's contributions during the same period are shown in the following tables (Tables 2 and 3):—

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1939-40

	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40
Alberta.....		2,017	3,287	4,382	5,244	6,286	7,151	8,086	9,100	9,726	10,175	10,677	
British Columbia.....	2,712	3,867	4,576	5,557	6,486	7,128	8,095	9,075	10,011	10,824	11,563	12,504	13,386
Manitoba.....		3,953	5,104	5,834	7,190	8,280	9,236	10,229	10,862	11,559	11,803	12,128	12,560
New Brunswick.....											9,803	11,142	11,564
Nova Scotia.....								6,509	12,241	13,044	13,456	13,827	14,221
Ontario.....									46,281	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530
Prince Edward Island.....										1,258	1,439	1,559	1,768
Quebec.....												22,628	46,480
Saskatchewan.....	2,768	4,482	5,913	7,643	8,195	9,203	10,137	10,706	11,436	11,775	12,227	12,567	
Northwest Territories.....													7
		4	5	5	5	5	7	7	8	9	7	7	7
	2,712	10,588	42,553	57,930	67,006	71,705	86,873	101,051	108,415	146,524	175,673	181,514	186,035

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1927-28  
to 1939-40

—	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....			62,555 15	320,363 50	645,367 48	827,830 32
British Columbia.....	131,452 01	399,340 95	357,801 04	580,841 45	1,032,840 50	1,176,242 75
Manitoba.....		242,303 86	427,143 44	652,803 80	1,128,222 34	1,362,137 75
New Brunswick.....						
Nova Scotia.....						
Ontario.....			355,828 97	3,516,805 90	6,039,971 87	6,827,955 49
Prince Edward Island.....						
Quebec.....						
Saskatchewan.....		191,041 97	333,287 21	555,940 81	1,184,539 97	1,316,956 68
Northwest Territories.....			557 74	1,387 06	1,467 71	1,419 74
	131,452 01	832,686 78	1,537,173 55	5,658,142 52	10,032,409 87	11,512,542 73

—	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	Total
	\$ cts.							
Alta.....	934,337 91	1,070,901 17	1,224,104 53	1,409,059 79	1,560,571 47	1,657,587 24	1,737,003 48	11,449,712 04
B.C.....	1,304,144 08	1,473,313 72	1,672,830 60	1,823,267 82	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	16,204,150 99
Man.....	1,516,372 06	1,655,955 90	1,797,144 68	1,922,415 33	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	16,755,968 60
N.B.....				868,308 30	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	5,172,585 06
N.S.....	69,270 71	1,479,899 16	1,561,101 81	1,764,915 17	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	10,591,795 98
Ont.....	7,085,839 82	7,671,618 81	8,677,034 03	9,146,837 58	9,527,488 70	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	78,235,367 47
P.E.I.....	74,125 02	128,855 76	148,007 47	161,527 62	167,330 39	179,121 07	193,970 13	1,052,937 46
Que.....				2,345,107 05	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34	26,126,614 84
Sask.....	1,328,057 26	1,455,195 60	1,582,604 89	1,706,190 29	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	15,156,952 89
N.W.T.....	1,398 07	1,719 24	1,655 84	1,722 57	1,714 56	1,898 91	1,764 41	16,705 85
	12,313,594 93	14,942,459 36	16,764,483 87	21,149,351 52	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90	180,762,799 38

\* Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include amounts paid out by the provinces which paid fifty per cent of the cost of pensions up to November 1, 1931, and twenty-five per cent thereafter. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions the provinces are required to pay the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of pensions for the country as a whole for the fiscal year 1939-40 may be estimated at approximately \$39,500,000.

## 6. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1940, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1940, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1940, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1939:

TABLE 4—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1940

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	P.E.I.	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1928	Act effective March 1, 1936	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1938	Act effective May 1, 1938	
Number of pensioners.....	10,677	13,386	12,560	11,815	14,502	59,717	2,007	48,797	12,567	7	186,055
Average monthly pension.....\$	18.53	19.13	18.66	14.62	14.82	18.53	11.28	17.84	16.76	20.00	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.35	1.73	1.73	2.62	2.62	1.59	2.11	1.52	1.32	0.07	
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	2.36	3.54	3.11	4.18	4.97	4.40	6.19	3.02	2.35	1.22	
*Percentage pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	57.45	48.80	55.57	62.61	52.63	36.16	34.11	50.29	56.41	57.74	
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1940 \$	441,130.00	569,434.46	518,653.05	388,206.02	482,603.22	2,461,941.06	40,588.50	1,945,725.35	474,665.73	425,54	7,355,997.00
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1939—March 31, 1940 \$	1,737,000	8,229,183.76	2,461,961.16	1,530,249.99	1,943,180.85	9,770,254.94	193,670.13	7,738,257.34	1,893,835.50	1,764,41	29,080,630.90
Dominion Government contribution from inception of Act \$	11,449,712.04	16,294,150.99	10,755,998.50	5,172,553.09	10,501,753,997.47	1,052,187.46	126,014.03	15,150,352.89	16,705.88	180,762,799.38	

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1939. Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

## B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### 1. Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations with reference to Pensions for Blind Persons.

The Old Age Pensions Act provides for the payment of a pension to every blind person, who, at the date of the proposed commencement of the pension

- (a) is a British subject, or, being a widow, who is not a British subject, was such before her marriage;
- (b) has attained the age of forty years;
- (c) has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date aforesaid;
- (d) has resided in the province in which the application for pension is made for the five years immediately preceding the said date;
- (e) is not an Indian as defined by the Indian Act;
- (f) is (i) unmarried, or a widower without a child or children, or a widow without a child or children and is not in receipt of an income of as much as four hundred and forty dollars a year, or (ii) married, or a widower with a child or children, or a widow with a child or children and is not in receipt of an income of as much as six hundred and forty dollars a year;
- (g) has not made any voluntary assignment or transfer of property for the purpose of qualifying for a pension;
- (h) is, and continues to be, so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential;
- (i) is not in receipt of a pension in respect of blindness under the Pension Act, or an allowance in respect of blindness under the War Veterans' Allowance Act.

The regulations with reference to the applicant's residence in Canada and in the province which are set forth in section I of part A of this report also apply to applicants for pensions in respect of blindness.

The maximum pension payable to a blind person is two hundred and forty dollars yearly except where a blind person marries another blind person after the coming into force of the amendment to the Act to provide for pensions in respect of blindness. In the latter case the maximum pension payable is one hundred and twenty dollars yearly.

Pensions payable to blind persons are subject to reduction as follows—

- (a) in the case of an unmarried person or a widower without a child or children or a widow without a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year;
- (b) in the case of a married person or a widower with a child or children or a widow with a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of four hundred dollars a year;
- (c) in the case of a person married to a blind person receiving a pension in respect of blindness under the Act, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year.

In the Old Age Pensions Act the word "child" means a son or step-son who has not attained the age of sixteen years and a daughter or step-daughter who has not attained the age of seventeen years, and a son, step-son, daughter or step-daughter who, having attained one or other of the said ages but not having attained the age of twenty-one years, is prevented from earning a livelihood by reason of physical or mental incapacity.

The Old Age Pensions Regulations provide that, where an applicant is one of two spouses living together, his or her income shall be taken to be equal to one-half of the sum of the incomes calculated as in the Act and

the Regulations provided (excluding any pension payable to the spouse under the Act) receivable by each of them separately. In calculating the income of a blind applicant who is married to and living with a spouse not in receipt of a pension in respect of blindness under the Act the income of the applicant must be taken by the pension authority to be equal to the sum of their joint incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (including any Old Age Pension payable to the spouse) less the sum of one hundred and sixty-five dollars.

An application for a pension in respect of blindness may be made at any time after the applicant has attained the age of thirty-nine years and nine months.

The Regulations provide that no pension in respect of blindness shall be granted or paid by the pension authority until the pension authority has received a certificate from an officer of the Department of Pensions and National Health to the effect that the applicant is "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential". For the purpose of certifying whether or not a person is "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential", the officers of the Department of Pensions and National Health must be guided by the following:—

- (i) the test is not whether the person is unable to pursue his ordinary occupation or any particular occupation but whether he is too blind to perform every several kind of work for which eyesight is essential;
- (ii) only the visual conditions shall be taken into account and other bodily or mental infirmities shall be disregarded;
- (iii) the principal condition to be considered is the visual acuity (i.e., the best direct vision obtainable with each eye separately or both together where both are present, as tested by Snellen's type using proper refractive lens);
- (iv) persons with visual acuity equal to or less than 6/60 Snellen after correction by using proper refractive lens shall be certified as "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential";
- (v) persons with visual acuity of more than 6/60 Snellen after correction by using proper refractive lens shall not be certified as "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential".

Under the Regulations the payment of a pension in respect of blindness to a person who solicits alms is suspended until the person ceases to solicit alms and gives an undertaking to desist from soliciting alms in the future.

Any person receiving an Old Age Pension under the Act may apply for a pension in respect of blindness in lieu of such Old Age Pension.

The general provisions of the Act and the Regulations governing the granting of Old Age Pensions also apply to the granting of Pensions for Blind Persons except where special provision is made for applicants for pensions in respect of blindness.

## 2. Agreements

By the terms of agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the provinces in accordance with the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act the Dominion is required to contribute seventy-five per cent of the net amount paid out by the provinces to persons who are eligible to receive pensions in respect of blindness. These agreements, although similar in form, are separate and distinct from the agreements entered into by the Dominion with the provinces with respect to Old Age Pensions.

During the fiscal year April 1, 1939, to March 31, 1940, pensions in respect of blindness were paid to blind persons residing in the nine provinces under the provisions of the agreements entered into by the Dominion and the Provinces during the fiscal year 1937-38. The payment of pensions to blind persons residing in the Northwest Territories is authorized but prior to March 31, 1940, no person residing in the Northwest Territories had made application for a pension in respect of blindness. The Yukon Territorial Council has not submitted a scheme for the administration of Pensions for Blind Persons and as an agreement cannot be made by the Governor in Council with the Gold Commissioner of the Yukon until such time as a scheme has been submitted for the approval of the Governor in Council pensions in respect of blindness are not payable to residents of the Yukon Territory.

The dates on which the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act providing for the payment of Pensions for Blind Persons became effective in the provinces and in the Northwest Territories are as follows:—

Alberta . . . . .	March 7, 1938
British Columbia . . . . .	December 1, 1937
Manitoba . . . . .	September 1, 1937
New Brunswick . . . . .	September 1, 1937
Nova Scotia . . . . .	October 1, 1937
Ontario . . . . .	September 1, 1937
Prince Edward Island . . . . .	December 1, 1937
Quebec . . . . .	October 1, 1937
Saskatchewan . . . . .	November 15, 1937
Northwest Territories . . . . .	March 30, 1938

The provisions of the Act which refer to the agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the provinces and to the provincial schemes for the administration of pensions apply to Pensions for Blind Persons as well as to Old Age Pensions.

### 3. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons

Persons who wish to obtain pensions in respect of blindness must apply to the pension authority appointed by the government of the province in which they reside. In each province the pension authority appointed by the provincial government to administer Old Age Pensions also administers Pensions for Blind Persons. The Dominion is solely responsible for the administration of Pensions for Blind Persons in the Northwest Territories.

The provincial pension authorities are required to follow the same procedure in dealing with an application for a pension in respect of blindness as in the case of an application for an Old Age Pension and, by investigation, must obtain confirmation of the statements made by the applicant in his form of application. The Regulations provide that no pension in respect of blindness shall be granted or paid by the pension authority until the pension authority has received a certificate from an officer of the Department of Pensions and National Health to the effect that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act. When the provincial pension authority is satisfied that the applicant fulfils the conditions set forth in the Act and the Regulations made thereunder with the exception of the medical test for blindness the name of the applicant is forwarded to the Director Medical Services, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa. In certain cases the Department of Pensions and National Health has reliable information with regard to the applicant and may certify that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act. If the Department of Pensions and National Health has not satisfactory information the applicant must submit himself for examination by one of the ophthalmologists appointed by the Department to examine applicants for pensions in respect of blindness. All medical examinations are made without cost to the applicant but the applicant must bear the cost of transportation and living expenses incidental to his submitting himself for such examination.

When the Department of Pensions and National Health has obtained satisfactory evidence that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and the pension authority has received a certificate to that effect, the pension authority may grant a pension to the applicant. Under the Regulations, however, the pension authority may refuse to grant a pension in any case where it is not satisfied that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and the Regulations made thereunder.

The records of the provincial pension authorities are subject to examination by the Department of Finance and the Auditor General of Canada.

#### *4. Medical Examination of Applicants for Pensions for Blind Persons*

The Regulations provide that when the pension authority is satisfied that an applicant fulfils the conditions set forth in the Act and the Regulations made thereunder with the exception of the medical test for blindness the pension authority shall forward the full name and address of the applicant to the Director Medical Services, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa. From the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to provide for the payment of Pensions for Blind Persons to March 31, 1940, the Department of Pensions and National Health has received from the provincial pension authorities 7,829 requests for medical certificates regarding applicants for pensions. In 2,091 cases the Department had adequate medical information regarding the applicants' vision and was able to issue certificates without requiring the applicants to submit themselves for examination by the oculists appointed by the Department. It was necessary to make arrangements to have other applicants examined. Arrangements for re-examination were made, after a lapse of some months, in several cases where the disease causing the visual defect was progressive. The Department has also found it necessary to re-examine a number of persons to whom pensions in respect of blindness have been granted in order to obtain proof that they continue to be blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and the Regulations made thereunder.

At March 31, 1940, there were 92 oculists in Canada who were authorized to examine applicants for pensions in respect of blindness. Of these oculists, 16 are regular employees of the Department of Pensions and National Health. The oculists who do not receive regular salaries from the Department are paid five dollars for each examination. During the fiscal year April 1, 1939, to March 31, 1940, the cost of medical examinations amounted to \$8,595. From the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to provide for the payment of Pensions for Blind Persons to March 31, 1940, the Dominion has paid \$24,406.93 for medical examinations. This amount includes the travelling expenses of certain oculists who were authorized by the Department of Pensions and National Health to make group examinations in different localities in order to expedite the consideration of claims for pensions in respect of blindness.

#### *5. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons in Canada*

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal year April 1, 1939, to March 31, 1940, amounted to \$895,923.09.

The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1940, was 5,404.

The following table (Table 5) shows the number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness at the end of the fiscal years 1937-38, 1938-39 and 1939-40, and the Dominion's contributions on account of Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal years 1937-38, 1938-39 and 1939-40.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38, 1938-39 AND 1939-40 AND DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38, 1938-39 AND 1939-40.

Province	Number of Pensioners			Dominion's Contributions		
	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....		146	183		19,289 81	30,064 83
British Columbia.....	76	232	290	3,025 41	37,323 55	46,626 94
Manitoba.....	98	206	268	6,412 39	33,506 77	42,471 01
New Brunswick.....	114	510	652	8,993 93	86,516 77	108,624 41
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	573	11,984 87	74,418 04	91,261 80
Ontario.....	683	1,154	1,333	38,535 29	199,162 73	225,446 58
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	115	660 12	10,518 23	13,207 31
Quebec.....	710	1,453	1,741	57,028 48	263,451 54	294,276 96
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	249	1,777 76	36,166 98	43,943 25
	1,946	4,512	5,404	128,418 25	760,354 42	895,923 09

The figures shown in Table 5 do not include the amounts paid out by the provinces which pay twenty-five per cent of the cost of Pensions for Blind Persons and the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of Pensions for Blind Persons for the country as a whole for the fiscal year April 1, 1939, to March 31, 1940, may be estimated at approximately \$1,225,000.

## *6. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons*

The following table (Table 6) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1939-40; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1940, for the fiscal year 1939-40, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1940:—

TABLE 6—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31 1960

ALBERTA		BRITISH COLUMBIA		MANITOBA		NEW BRUNSWICK		NOVA SCOTIA		ONTARIO		PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND		QUEBEC		SASKATCHEWAN		
ACT EFFECTIVE MARCH 7, 1938	ACT EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 1937	ACT EFFECTIVE SEPT. 1, 1937	ACT EFFECTIVE OCT. 1, 1937															
Number of pensioners.....\$	183	290	268	652	573	1,333	115	1,741	249	19,49	19,49	11,347	235,128	19,87	5,404			
Average monthly pension.....\$	19.53	19.38	19.49	19.70	19.07	19.56	13.92											
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1940.....\$	8,117	12	12,541	68	11,530	71	28,775	98	23,933	86	58,461	80	3,526	75	76,890	20	235,128	96
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1939-March 31, 1940.....\$	30,064	83	46,026	94	42,471	01	108,624	41	91,261	80	225,446	53	13,207	31	294,276	96	43,943	25
Dominion Government contributions from interpretation of amendment to A.P. Act \$	49,354	64	86,975	90	82,390	17	204,135	11	177,664	71	463,144	60	24,385	65	614,756	88	\$1,887	99
																	1,784,095	76

TABLE 7—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1940

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age	Blind			
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.			
Alberta.....	10,677	183	10,860	11,449,712 04	49,354 64	11,499,066 68		
British Columbia.....	13,386	290	13,676	16,204,159 99	86,975 90	16,291,135 89		
Manitoba.....	12,560	268	12,828	16,755,968 60	82,390 17	16,838,358 77		
New Brunswick.....	11,815	652	12,467	5,172,585 06	204,135 11	5,376,720 17		
Nova Scotia.....	14,502	573	15,075	10,591,795 99	177,664 71	10,769,460 70		
Ontario.....	59,717	1,333	61,050	78,235,367 47	463,144 60	78,698,512 07		
Prince Edward Island.....	2,007	115	2,122	1,052,937 46	24,385 66	1,077,323 12		
Quebec.....	48,797	1,741	50,538	26,126,614 03	614,756 98	26,741,371 01		
Saskatchewan.....	12,567	249	12,816	15,156,952 89	81,887 99	15,238,840 88		
Northwest Territories.....	7	7	7	16,705 85	.....	16,705 85		
	186,035	5,404	191,439	180,762,799 38	1,784,695 76	182,547,495 14		

TABLE 8.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1938-39 AND 1939-40

Province	Number of Pensioners	Number of Pensioners	Net increase in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1938-39	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1939-40	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly Pension	
	as at March 31, 1939	as at March 31, 1940		\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	10,175	10,677	502	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48	79,436 24	18 44	18 53
British Columbia.....	12,504	13,386	882	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	149,133 34	19 27	19 38
Manitoba.....	12,128	12,560	432	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	69,560 78	18 66	18 66
New Brunswick.....	11,564	11,815	251	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	89,889 29	14 16	14 62
Nova Scotia.....	14,221	14,502	281	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	46,457 02	14 71	14 82
Ontario.....	58,858	59,717	859	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	154,503 60	18 51	18 53
Prince Edward Island.....	1,891	2,007	116	179,121 07	193,970 13	14,849 06	10 94	11 28
Quebec.....	47,939	48,797	868	7,537,019 04	7,758,257 34	121,238 30	17 85	17 84
Saskatchewan.....	12,227	12,567	340	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	72,407 66	16 59	16 76
Northwest Territories.....	7	7	.....	1,898 91	1,764 41	-134 50	20 00	20 00
	181,514	186,035	4,521	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90	797,346 79	.....	.....

TABLE 9.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1938-39 AND 1939-40

Province	Number of Pensioners	Number of Pensioners	Net increase in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1938-39	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1939-40	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly Pension	
	as at March 31, 1939	as at March 31, 1940		\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	146	183	37	19,289 81	30,064 83	10,775 02	19 44	19 58
British Columbia.....	232	290	58	37,323 55	46,626 94	9,303 39	19 41	19 38
Manitoba.....	206	268	62	33,506 77	42,471 01	8,964 24	19 37	19 49
New Brunswick.....	510	652	142	86,516 77	108,624 41	22,107 64	19 59	19 70
Nova Scotia.....	493	573	80	74,418 04	91,261 80	16,843 76	19 04	19 07
Ontario.....	1,154	1,333	179	199,162 73	225,446 58	26,283 85	19 53	19 58
Prince Edward Island.....	104	115	11	10,518 23	13,207 31	2,689 08	13 99	13 92
Quebec.....	1,453	1,741	288	263,451 54	294,276 96	30,825 42	19 51	19 49
Saskatchewan.....	214	249	35	36,166 98	43,945 25	7,776 27	19 85	19 87
Northwest Territories.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	4,512	5,404	892	760,354 42	895,923 09	135,568 67	.....	.....

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA

Report on the

Administration of Old Age Pensions  
AND  
Pensions For Blind Persons  
In Canada

Under the provisions of the  
Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)  
1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1941

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1941





*To His Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone, K.G., P.C.,  
G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., A.D.C., etc., etc., etc., Governor  
General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1941, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. ILSLEY,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1941.

The Honourable J. L. ILSLEY,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1941, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1941.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	7
2. Administration of Old Age Pensions.....	7
3. Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations.....	8
4. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada.....	10
5. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	13

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	14
2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	14
3. Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations.....	15
4. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons in Canada.....	17
5. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	18



# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1940-41

## A.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act*

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that the Governor in Council may make an agreement with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of any province for the payment to such province quarterly of an amount equal to seventy-five per centum of the net sum paid out during the preceding quarter by such province for pensions pursuant to a provincial statute authorizing and providing for the payment of such pensions to the persons and under the conditions specified in the Act and the regulations made thereunder.

Under the provisions of the Act every agreement continues in force so long as the provincial statute authorizing and providing for the payment of old age pensions remains in operation or until after the expiration of ten years from the date upon which notice of an intention to determine the agreement is given by the Governor General to the Lieutenant-Governor of the province with which the same was made.

The agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces continued in operation during the fiscal year 1940-41. The amount which the Dominion paid to each of the nine provinces during the fiscal year 1940-41 is shown in Table 4.

Old Age Pensions were paid during the fiscal year 1940-41 to residents of the Northwest Territories under an agreement made in 1929 by the Governor in Council with the Commissioner of the Territories. The amount paid by the Dominion to residents of the Northwest Territories during the fiscal year 1940-41 is shown in Table 4.

Before old age pensions may be paid to persons residing in the Yukon Territory an agreement must be made by the Governor in Council with the Gold Commissioner. As no agreement has been made old age pensions are not payable in the Yukon Territory.

Under the agreements now in operation the payment of old age pensions became effective in the nine provinces and in the Northwest Territories on the following dates:—

Alberta .....	August 1, 1929
British Columbia .....	September 1, 1927
Manitoba .....	September 1, 1928
New Brunswick .....	July 1, 1936
Nova Scotia .....	March 1, 1934
Ontario .....	November 1, 1929
Prince Edward Island .....	July 1, 1933
Quebec .....	August 1, 1936
Saskatchewan .....	May 1, 1928
Northwest Territories .....	January 25, 1929

### 2. *Administration of Old Age Pensions*

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that before any agreement made pursuant to the Act comes into operation the scheme for the administration of pensions proposed to be adopted by the province must be approved by the Governor in Council and that no change in the scheme may be made by the province without the consent of the Governor in Council.

The provincial schemes which were approved prior to April 1, 1940, were not altered during the fiscal year 1940-41.

Each provincial scheme provides for the appointment of a pension authority to administer old age pensions. The following boards, commissions or branches of the provincial governments were responsible for the administration of the Act during the fiscal year 1940-41,

Alberta .....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton. Chairman—J. F. Percival, Esq.
British Columbia ....	The Workmen's Compensation Board, Vancouver. Chairman—E. S. H. Winn, Esq.
Manitoba .....	The Workmen's Compensation Board, Winnipeg. Chairman—Major C. K. Newcombe.
New Brunswick .....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton. Chairman—J. W. Niles, Esq.
Nova Scotia .....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax. Chairman—Ernest H. Blois, Esq.
Ontario .....	The Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto. Chairman—J. A. Faulkner, M.D.
Prince Edward Island.	The Old Age Pensions Commission, Charlottetown. Chairman—Peter D. Trainor, Esq.
Quebec .....	The Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec. President—J. R. Forest, Esq.
Saskatchewan .....	The Old Age Pensions Branch, Regina. Commissioner—W. C. Mills, Esq.

The provincial pension authorities must decide upon applications for old age pensions from persons residing in the provinces and are responsible for making monthly payments to the persons to whom pensions are granted. In all provinces old age pensions are paid by cheque. The Dominion authorities are responsible for the administration of pensions in the Northwest Territories. Cheques in payment of pensions granted to persons residing in the Northwest Territories are issued monthly by the Department of Finance.

The records upon which the decisions of the pension authorities are based are subject to examination by the Department of Finance and the Auditor General of Canada.

### 3. *Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations with reference to Old Age Pensions.*

During the fiscal year 1940-41 there were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act or to the Regulations made under the authority of section 19 of the Act. The following is a summary of the main provisions of the Act and the Regulations which govern the administration of old age pensions—

The Old Age Pensions Act provides for the payment of a pension to every person who, at the date of the proposed commencement of the pension

- (a) is a British subject, or, being a widow, who is not a British subject, was such before her marriage;
- (b) has attained the age of seventy years;
- (c) has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date aforesaid;
- (d) has resided in the province in which the application for pension is made for the five years immediately preceding the said date;
- (e) is not an Indian as defined by the Indian Act;
- (f) is not in receipt of an income of as much as three hundred and sixty-five dollars a year, and
- (g) has not made any voluntary assignment or transfer of property for the purpose of qualifying for a pension.

The Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the authority of section 19 of the Act and approved by the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of

the nine provinces provide, among other things, that an applicant shall be deemed to have been resident in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension only

- (a) if he has actually lodged within Canada on at least 5,844 days within the said twenty years; and
- (b) if he has actually lodged within Canada on at least 700 days within the last three years of the said twenty years; and
- (c) if he has lodged within Canada some time at least twenty years prior to making application.

The Regulations also provide that an applicant shall be deemed to have resided in the province in which the application for pension is made for the five years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension if he is then residing in the province, and if he has lodged therein on at least 700 days in the said five years.

In the Regulations the word "lodge" means to be present in person.

The maximum pension payable is two hundred and forty dollars yearly, which is subject to reduction by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of one hundred and twenty-five dollars a year.

An application for a pension may be made at any time after the applicant has reached the age of sixty-nine years and nine months.

The Regulations provide that every pension shall commence on the first day of the month following the month in which all necessary information and proofs have been furnished to the satisfaction of the pension authority or on the first day of the month following the month in which the applicant first becomes entitled, whichever is the later. No pension may be paid for any period of more than one month during which the applicant is receiving direct relief out of moneys provided in whole or in part by the Dominion, the province or a municipality.

The Act provides that a pension authority shall be entitled to recover out of the estate of any deceased pensioner, as a debt due by the pensioner to such authority, the sum of the pension payments made to such pensioner from time to time, together with interest at the rate of five per cent per annum compounded annually. No claim may be made by the pension authority, however, for the recovery of such debt directly or indirectly out of any part of the pensioner's estate which passes by will or on an intestacy to any other pensioner or to any person who has, since the grant of the pension or for the last three years during which the pension has continued to be paid, regularly contributed to the support of the pensioner by the payment of money or otherwise to an extent which, having regard to the means of the person so having contributed, is considered by the pension authority to be reasonable.

Where a pensioner has during part of the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension resided in more than one province in which he would have become pensionable if he had continued to reside therein, the province in which the pension is granted is entitled to be reimbursed, by the other province or provinces in which the pensioner has resided as aforesaid, a proportion of the pension equal to the proportion which the duration of the pensioner's residence in such other province bears to twenty years.

After the grant of a pension in any province the pensioner may reside in any part of Canada and continue to receive his pension. If, however, after the grant of a pension, the pensioner transfers his residence to some place out of Canada, his pension ceases but his right thereto revives upon his again becoming resident in Canada.

- The Regulations provide that the payment of a pension shall be suspended—  
 (a) during the lawful imprisonment of a pensioner for an offence;  
 (b) as soon as a pensioner has been absent from Canada for more than thirty consecutive days and until his return to Canada;  
 (c) during the period that a pensioner refuses or fails to give the pension authority any information required by the pension authority.

If, after the granting of a pension, a pensioner makes any voluntary assignment or transfer of real or personal property without the approval of the pension authority the payment of his pension may be suspended until the aggregate amount of the suspended payments equals the value of the real or personal property assigned or transferred at the time of assignment or transfer.

Under the provisions of the Act no pension is subject to alienation or transfer by the pensioner, or to seizure in satisfaction of any claim against him.

The Act provides that the receipt of an Old Age Pension shall not by itself constitute a disqualification from voting at any provincial or municipal election.

All sums payable to any province in pursuance of any agreement made under the Old Age Pensions Act are payable from time to time on the certificate of the Minister of Finance out of any moneys belonging to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada not otherwise appropriated.

#### 4. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada

During the fiscal year April 1, 1940 to March 31, 1941, the Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of old age pensions amounted to \$28,901,932.75. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1941, was 185,946.

The following table shows the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1936-37 to 1940-41:

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Date Act effective	Year ending Mar. 31, 1937	Year ending Mar. 31, 1938	Year ending Mar. 31, 1939	Year ending Mar. 31, 1940	Year ending, Mar. 31, 1941
Alberta.....	Aug. 1, 1929	50.55	52.83	55.04	57.45	56.56
British Columbia.....	Sept. 1, 1927	40.09	42.55	45.82	48.80	49.79
Manitoba.....	Sept. 1, 1928	52.54	52.70	53.94	55.57	55.33
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936	54.46	59.61	61.61	62.61	61.83
Nova Scotia.....	Mar. 1, 1934	49.84	50.66	51.88	52.63	51.62
Ontario.....	Nov. 1, 1929	34.54	35.16	35.82	36.16	35.89
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933	30.48	31.07	32.31	34.11	33.12
Quebec.....	Aug. 1, 1936	23.81	48.37	49.67	50.29	49.48
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928	51.98	53.35	55.17	56.41	59.60

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1st in each year.

The number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1927-28 to 1940-41 and the Dominion's contributions during the same period are shown in the following tables:—

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1940-41

—	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41
Alberta.....		2,017	3,287	4,382	5,244	6,286	7,151	8,086	9,100	9,726	10,175	10,677	10,746	
British Columbia.....	2,712	3,867	4,576	5,557	6,486	7,128	8,095	9,076	10,011	10,824	11,563	12,504	13,386	13,942
Manitoba.....	3,953	5,104	5,834	7,190	8,280	9,236	10,229	10,862	11,559	11,800	12,128	12,560	12,727	
New Brunswick.....										9,803	11,142	11,564	11,815	11,747
Nova Scotia.....							6,509	12,241	13,044	13,456	13,827	14,221	14,502	14,454
Ontario.....	26,370	37,334	41,300	42,853	46,281	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530	58,585	59,717	59,224		
Prince Edward Island.....							1,258	1,439	1,659	1,768	1,811	1,891	2,007	1,987
Quebec.....										22,620	46,490	47,939	48,797	48,000
Saskatchewan.....	2,768	4,482	5,913	7,643	8,195	9,203	10,137	10,706	11,436	11,775	12,227	12,567	13,111	
Northwest Territories.....		4	5	5	5	5	7	7	8	9	7	7	8	
	2,712	10,588	42,553	57,930	67,006	71,705	86,873	101,051	108,415	146,524	175,673	181,514	186,035	185,946

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1940-41

—	1927-28		1928-29		1929-30		1930-31		1931-32			
	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.		
Alberta.....							62,555	15	320,363	50	645,367	48
British Columbia.....	131,452	01	399,340	95	357,801	04	580,841	45	1,032,840	50		
Manitoba.....			242,303	86	427,143	44	652,803	80	1,128,222	34		
New Brunswick.....												
Nova Scotia.....							355,828	97	3,516,805	90	6,039,971	87
Ontario.....												
Prince Edward Island.....												
Quebec.....												
Saskatchewan.....			191,041	97	333,287	21	585,940	81	1,184,539	97		
Northwest Territories.....					557	74			1,387	06	1,467	71
	131,452	01	832,686	78	1,537,173	55	5,658,142	52	10,032,409	87		

—	1932-33		1933-34		1934-35		1935-36		1936-37	
	\$	cts.								
Alberta.....	827,830	32	934,387	91	1,070,901	17	1,224,104	53	1,409,059	79
British Columbia.....	1,176,242	75	1,304,144	08	1,478,313	72	1,672,830	60	1,823,267	82
Manitoba.....	1,362,137	75	1,516,372	06	1,655,955	90	1,797,144	68	1,922,415	33
New Brunswick.....									868,308	30
Nova Scotia.....			69,270	71	1,479,899	16	1,661,101	81	1,764,915	17
Ontario.....	6,827,955	49	7,085,839	82	7,671,618	81	8,677,034	05	9,146,837	58
Prince Edward Island.....			74,125	02	128,855	76	148,007	47	161,527	62
Quebec.....									2,345,107	05
Saskatchewan.....	1,316,956	68	1,328,057	26	1,455,195	60	1,582,604	89	1,706,190	29
Northwest Territories.....	1,419	74	1,398	07	1,719	24	1,655	84	1,722	57
	11,512,542	73	12,313,594	93	14,942,459	36	16,764,483	87	21,149,351	52

—	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	Total
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48	1,778,022 53	13,227,734 57
British Columbia.....	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	2,331,331 44	18,535,491 43
Manitoba.....	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	2,106,858 53	18,862,827 13
New Brunswick.....	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	1,551,711 34	6,724,296 40
Nova Scotia.....	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	1,941,171 82	12,532,967 81
Ontario.....	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	9,814,403 80	88,049,771 27
Prince Edward Island.....	167,330 39	179,121 07	193,970 13	203,135 81	1,256,073 27
Quebec.....	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34	7,199,832 61	33,326,446 64
Saskatchewan.....	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	1,973,786 81	17,180,739 70
Northwest Territories.....	1,714 56	1,898 91	1,764 41	1,678 06	18,383 91
	<b>28,524,587 23</b>	<b>28,283,284 11</b>	<b>29,080,630 90</b>	<b>28,901,932 75</b>	<b>209,664,732 13</b>

\* Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include amounts paid out by the provinces which paid fifty per cent of the cost of pensions up to November 1, 1931, and twenty-five per cent thereafter. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions the provinces are required to pay the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of pensions for the country as a whole for the fiscal year 1940-41 may be estimated at approximately \$39,200,000.

### 5. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1941, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1941, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1941, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June, 1, 1940:—

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1941

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective Mar. 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	\$ 10,746	13,942	12,727	11,747	14,454	59,224
Average monthly pension.....	18.56	19.12	18.70	14.65	14.92	18.56
Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.35	1.79	1.74	2.57	2.58	1.57
Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	2.39	3.60	3.14	4.16	5.00	4.37
Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	70	56.56	49.79	55.33	61.83	51.62
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1941.....	\$ 444,343.36	587,512.17	525,896.58	385,654.72	486,119.51	2,446,038.88
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1940 to March 31, 1941.....	\$ 1,778,022.53	2,331,331.44	2,106,858.53	1,551,711.34	1,941,171.82	9,814,403.80
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.....	\$ 13,297,734.57	18,535,491.43	18,862,827.13	6,724,296.40	12,532,967.81	88,019,771.27
<hr/>						
	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals	
	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928	Order-in-Council effective Jan. 25, 1929		
Number of pensioners.....	\$ 1,987	48,000	13,111	8	185,946	
Average monthly pension.....	11.32	16.66	16.98	20.00		
Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	2.07	1.48	1.37	0.08		
Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	6.25	2.98	2.30	1.22		
Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	33.12	49.48	59.60	6.56		
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1941.....	\$ 50,393.70	1,675,596.06	494,374.61	455.54	7,006,385.13	
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1940 to March 31, 1941.....	\$ 203,135.81	7,193,832.61	1,973,786.81	1,678.06	28,901,932.75	
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.....	\$ 1,256,073.27	33,326,416.64	17,130,739.70	18,383.91	209,661,732.13	

## B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### 1. *Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act*

In 1937 the Old Age Pensions Act was amended to provide for the payment of pensions under certain conditions to blind persons who have attained the age of forty years. Under the provisions of the Act the Governor in Council may make agreements with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the provinces for the payment of pensions for blind persons in the same way that agreements are made for the payment of old age pensions. Within a year after the amendment to the Act agreements were made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces and with the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. The dates on which the amendment to the Act providing for the payment of pensions for blind persons became effective in the provinces and in the Northwest Territories are as follows:—

Alberta .....	March 7, 1938
British Columbia .....	December 1, 1937
Manitoba .....	September 1, 1937
New Brunswick .....	September 1, 1937
Nova Scotia .....	October 1, 1937
Ontario .....	September 1, 1937
Prince Edward Island .....	December 1, 1937
Quebec .....	October 1, 1937
Saskatchewan .....	November 15, 1937
Northwest Territories .....	March 30, 1938

During the fiscal year 1940-41 pensions in respect of blindness were paid to blind persons in the nine provinces. No person residing in the Northwest Territories has applied for a pension in respect of blindness. Pensions for blind persons are not payable to persons residing in the Yukon Territory as no agreement has been made by the Governor in Council with the authorities in that part of the Dominion. The amount which the Dominion paid to each province on account of pensions for blind persons during the fiscal year 1940-41 is shown in table 6.

### 2. *Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons*

The pension authorities appointed by the provincial governments to administer old age pensions are also responsible for the administration of pensions for blind persons. The same procedure is followed by the pension authorities in dealing with applications for pensions in respect of blindness as in cases where persons apply for old age pensions. In the administration of pensions for blind persons, however, the pension authorities must obtain proof that the persons who apply for pensions are blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and the Regulations made thereunder. In most cases satisfactory evidence that the applicant is blind can be obtained only by a medical examination made by a qualified ophthalmologist. In order to provide for the examination of applicants for pensions in respect of blindness the Department of Pensions and National Health has appointed a number of ophthalmologists in each province. The pension authorities make all arrangements for the examination of applicants by the medical examiners. The examination is made without cost to the applicant but the applicant must bear the cost of transportation and living expenses incidental to his submitting himself for such examination.

All medical reports are forwarded to the Director Medical Services, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa. This official or his representative must decide in each case whether or not the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and the Regulations made thereunder. The provincial pension authorities may grant pensions in respect

of blindness only to persons who are certified as blind by the Director Medical Services. Under the Regulations, however, the pension authority may refuse to grant a pension in any case where it is not satisfied that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and the Regulations.

The Dominion Government pays the cost of medical examinations. During the fiscal year the amount paid to examining physicians was \$5,495. A number of the examining physicians are regular employees of the Department of Pensions and National Health, and, therefore, do not receive a fee for examining applicants for pensions in respect of blindness. The oculists who do not receive regular salaries from the Department of Pensions and National Health are paid five dollars for each examination. At March 31, 1941, there were 88 oculists in Canada who were authorized to examine applicants for pensions in respect of blindness.

### *3. Summary of the main provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations with reference to pensions in respect of blindness*

During the fiscal year 1940-41 there were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act or the Regulations with regard to pensions for blind persons. The following is a summary of the main provisions of the Act and the Regulations which govern the administration of pensions in respect of blindness:—

The Old Age Pensions Act provides for the payment of a pension to every blind person, who, at the date of the proposed commencement of the pension

- (a) is a British subject, or, being a widow, who is not a British subject, was such before her marriage;
- (b) has attained the age of forty years;
- (c) has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date aforesaid;
- (d) has resided in the province in which the application for pension is made for the five years immediately preceding the said date;
- (e) is not an Indian as defined by the Indian Act;
- (f) is (i) unmarried, or a widower without a child or children, or a widow without a child or children and is not in receipt of an income of as much as four hundred and forty dollars a year, or (ii) married, or a widower with a child or children, or a widow with a child or children and is not in receipt of an income of as much as six hundred and forty dollars a year;
- (g) has not made any voluntary assignment or transfer of property for the purpose of qualifying for a pension;
- (h) is, and continues to be, so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential;
- (i) is not in receipt of a pension in respect of blindness under the Pension Act, or an allowance in respect of blindness under the War Veterans' Allowance Act.

The regulations with reference to the applicant's residence in Canada and in the province which are set forth in section I of part A of this report also apply to applicants for pensions in respect of blindness.

The maximum pension payable to a blind person is two hundred and forty dollars yearly except where a blind person marries another blind person after the coming into force of the amendment to the Act to provide for pensions in respect of blindness. In the latter case the maximum pension payable is one hundred and twenty dollars yearly.

Pensions payable to blind persons are subject to reduction as follows—

- (a) in the case of an unmarried person or a widower without a child or children or a widow without a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year;
- (b) in the case of a married person or a widower with a child or children or a widow with a child or children, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of four hundred dollars a year;
- (c) in the case of a person married to a blind person receiving a pension in respect of blindness under the Act, by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of two hundred dollars a year.

In the Old Age Pensions Act the word "child" means a son or step-son who has not attained the age of sixteen years and a daughter or step-daughter who has not attained the age of seventeen years, and a son, step-son, daughter or step-daughter who, having attained one or other of the said ages but not having attained the age of twenty-one years, is prevented from earning a livelihood by reason of physical or mental incapacity.

The Old Age Pensions Regulations provide that, where an applicant is one of two spouses living together, his or her income shall be taken to be equal to one-half of the sum of the incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (excluding any pension payable to the spouse under the Act) receivable by each of them separately. In calculating the income of a blind applicant who is married to and living with a spouse not in receipt of a pension in respect of blindness under the Act the income of the applicant must be taken by the pension authority to be equal to the sum of their joint incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (including any Old Age Pension payable to the spouse) less the sum of one hundred and sixty-five dollars.

An application for a pension in respect of blindness may be made at any time after the applicant has attained the age of thirty-nine years and nine months.

The Regulations provide that no pension in respect of blindness shall be granted or paid by the pension authority until the pension authority has received a certificate from an officer of the Department of Pensions and National Health to the effect that the applicant is "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential". For the purpose of certifying whether or not a person is "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential", the officers of the Department of Pensions and National Health must be guided by the following:—

- (i) the test is not whether the person is unable to pursue his ordinary occupation or any particular occupation but whether he is too blind to perform every several kind of work for which eyesight is essential;
- (ii) only the visual conditions shall be taken into account and other bodily or mental infirmities shall be disregarded;
- (iii) the principal condition to be considered is the visual acuity (i.e., the best direct vision obtainable with each eye separately or both together where both are present, as tested by Snellen's type using proper refractive lens);
- (iv) persons with visual acuity equal to or less than 6/60 Snellen after correction by using proper refractive lens shall be certified as "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential";
- (v) persons with visual acuity of more than 6/60 Snellen after correction by using proper refractive lens shall not be certified as "so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential".

Under the Regulations the payment of a pension in respect of blindness to a person who solicits alms is suspended until the person ceases to solicit alms and gives an undertaking to desist from soliciting alms in the future.

Any person receiving an Old Age Pension under the Act may apply for a pension in respect of blindness in lieu of such Old Age Pension.

The general provisions of the Act and the Regulations governing the granting of Old Age Pensions also apply to the granting of Pensions for Blind Persons except where special provision is made for applicants for pensions in respect of blindness.

#### 4. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal year April 1, 1940, to March 31, 1941, amounted to \$1,009,766.93.

The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1941, was 5,913.

The following table (Table 5) shows the Dominion's contributions on account of Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal years 1937-38 to 1940-41 and the number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness at the end of each fiscal year.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1940-41, AND DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1940-41

Province	Number of Pensioners				Dominion's Contributions			
	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41
					\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	146	183	197		19,289 81	30,064 83	33,607 58	
British Columbia.....	76	232	301	3,025 41	37,323 55	46,626 94	50,564 46	
Manitoba.....	98	206	268	307	6,412 39	33,506 77	42,471 01	51,033 74
New Brunswick.....	114	510	652	704	8,993 93	86,516 77	108,624 41	121,240 70
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	573	610	11,984 87	74,418 04	91,281 80	102,375 34
Ontario.....	683	1,154	1,333	1,448	38,535 29	199,162 73	225,446 58	248,975 03
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	115	116	660 12	10,518 23	13,207 31	14,337 93
Quebec.....	710	1,453	1,741	1,947	57,028 48	263,451 54	294,276 96	336,873 46
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	249	283	1,777 76	36,166 98	43,943 25	50,752 69
	1,946	4,512	5,404	5,913	128,418 25	760,354 42	895,923 09	1,009,766 93

The figures shown in Table 5 do not include the amounts paid out by the provinces which pay twenty-five per cent of the cost of Pensions for Blind Persons and the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of Pensions for Blind Persons for the country as a whole for the fiscal year April 1, 1940, to March 31, 1941, may be estimated at approximately \$1,350,000.

5. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons*

The following table (Table 6) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1940-41; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1941, for the fiscal year 1940-41, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1941:—

TABLE 6.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1941

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	
	Act effective Mar. 7, 1938	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	
Number of pensioners.....	197	301	307	704	610	1,448	
Average monthly pension.....	\$ 19.51	\$ 19.64	\$ 19.63	\$ 19.64	\$ 19.20	\$ 19.65	
Dominion Government contributions for Quarter ending March 31, 1941.....	\$ 8,569.73	\$ 13,193.07	\$ 13,444.47	\$ 30,968.63	\$ 26,293.34	\$ 64,084.75	
Dominion Government contributions, April 1, 1940, to March 31, 1941.....	\$ 33,607.53	\$ 50,584.46	\$ 51,033.74	\$ 121,246.70	\$ 102,375.34	\$ 248,975.03	
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act...	\$ 82,962.22	\$ 137,540.36	\$ 133,423.91	\$ 325,381.81	\$ 280,040.05	\$ 712,119.63	
	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan		Totals		
	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Nov. 15, 1937				
Number of pensioners.....	116	1,947	283				\$ 5,913
Average monthly pension.....	\$ 13.87	\$ 19.50	\$ 19.92				
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ending March 31, 1941.....	\$ 3,505.05	\$ 87,576.62	\$ 12,840.14				\$ 260,475.80
Dominion Government contributions, April 1, 1940, to March 31, 1941.....	\$ 14,337.93	\$ 336,873.46	\$ 50,752.69				\$ 1,009,766.93
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.	\$ 38,723.59	\$ 951,630.44	\$ 132,640.68				\$ 2,794,462.69

TABLE 7—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1941

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age	Blind	
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.	
Alberta.....	10,746	197	10,943	13,227,734 57	82,962 22	13,310,696 79
British Columbia.....	13,942	301	14,243	18,535,491 43	137,540 36	18,673,031 79
Manitoba.....	12,727	307	13,034	18,862,827 13	133,423 91	18,996,251 04
New Brunswick.....	11,747	704	12,451	6,724,296 40	325,381 81	7,049,678 21
Nova Scotia.....	14,454	610	15,064	12,532,967 81	280,040 05	12,813,007 86
Ontario.....	59,224	1,448	60,672	88,049,771 27	712,119 63	88,761,890 90
Prince Edward Island.....	1,987	116	2,103	1,256,073 27	38,723 59	1,294,796 86
Quebec.....	48,000	1,947	49,947	33,326,446 64	951,630 44	34,278,077 08
Saskatchewan.....	13,111	283	13,394	17,130,739 70	132,640 68	17,263,380 38
Northwest Territories.....	8	.....	8	18,383 91	.....	18,383 91
	185,946	5,913	191,859	209,664,732 13	2,794,462 69	212,459,194 82

TABLE 8.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1939-40 AND 1940-41

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1940	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1941	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year	Net increase or decrease in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly Pension	
				1939-40	1940-41		March 31, 1940	March 31, 1941
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	10,677	10,746	69	1,737,003 48	1,778,022 53	41,019 05	18 53	18 55
British Columbia.....	13,388	13,942	556	2,220,133 70	2,331,331 44	111,197 74	19 13	19 12
Manitoba.....	12,560	12,727	167	2,061,961 16	2,106,858 53	44,897 37	18 66	18 70
New Brunswick.....	11,815	11,747	-68	1,530,249 39	1,551,711 34	21,461 95	14 62	14 65
Nova Scotia.....	14,502	14,454	-48	1,913,180 85	1,941,171 82	27,990 97	14 82	14 92
Ontario.....	59,717	59,224	-493	9,770,254 94	9,814,403 80	44,148 86	18 53	18 56
Prince Edward Island.....	2,007	1,987	-20	193,970 13	203,135 81	9,165 68	11 28	11 32
Quebec.....	48,797	48,000	-797	7,758,257 34	7,199,832 61	-558,424 73	17 84	15 66
Saskatchewan.....	12,567	13,111	544	1,893,855 50	1,973,781 81	79,931 31	16 76	16 93
Northwest Territories.....	7	8	1	1,764 41	1,678 06	-86 35	20 00	20 00
	186,035	185,946	-89	29,080,630 90	28,901,932 75	-178,698 15	.....	.....

TABLE 9.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1939-40 AND 1940-41

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1940	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1941	Net increase in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly Pension	
				1939-40	1940-41		March 31, 1940	March 31, 1941
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.		\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	183	197	14	30,064 83	33,607 58	3,542 75	19 58	19 51
British Columbia.....	290	301	11	46,626 94	50,564 46	3,937 52	19 38	19 64
Manitoba.....	268	307	39	42,471 01	51,033 74	8,562 73	19 49	19 63
New Brunswick.....	652	704	52	108,624 41	121,246 70	12,622 29	19 70	19 64
Nova Scotia.....	573	610	37	91,261 80	102,375 34	11,113 54	19 07	19 20
Ontario.....	1,333	1,448	115	225,446 58	248,975 03	23,528 45	19 58	19 65
Prince Edward Island.....	115	116	1	13,207 31	14,337 93	1,130 62	13 92	13 87
Quebec.....	1,741	1,947	206	294,276 96	336,873 46	42,596 50	19 49	19 50
Saskatchewan.....	249	283	34	43,943 25	50,752 69	6,809 44	19 87	19 92
Northwest Territories....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5,404	5,913	509	895,923 09	1,009,766 93	113,843 84	.....	.....



*an*  
*Canada National Health Welfare*  
H  
*Dept. of*

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA

Report on the

Administration of Old Age Pensions  
AND  
Pensions For Blind Persons  
In Canada

Under the provisions of the  
Old Age Pensions Act

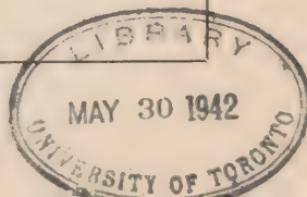
Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)  
1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

*Printed 2*  
Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1942

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1942





*To His Excellency Major-General the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone,  
K.G., P.C., G.C.B., G.M.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., A.D.C., Governor General  
and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:**

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1942, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. ILSLEY,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1942.

The Honourable J. L. ILSLEY,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1942, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1942.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	7
2. Administration of Old Age Pensions.....	7
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	8
4. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada.....	9
5. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	11

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	12
2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons .....	12
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	13
4. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons in Canada.....	13
5. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	14



# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1941-42

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

Under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act the Governor in Council may make an agreement with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of any province for the payment to the province quarterly of an amount equal to seventy-five per centum of the net sum paid out during the preceding quarter by the province for pensions pursuant to a provincial statute authorizing and providing for the payment of pensions to the persons and under the conditions specified in the Act and the regulations made thereunder.

Old age pensions were paid during the fiscal year April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1942, to pensioners residing in the nine provinces and in the Northwest Territories under agreements which became effective on the following dates:—

Alberta.....	August 1, 1929
British Columbia.....	September 1, 1927
Manitoba.....	September 1, 1928
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936
Nova Scotia.....	March 1, 1934
Ontario.....	November 1, 1929
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933
Quebec.....	August 1, 1936
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928
Northwest Territories.....	January 25, 1929

The amount paid by the Dominion during the fiscal year 1941-42 to each of the nine provinces for old age pensions and the amount paid by the Dominion to pensioners who are residing in the Northwest Territories are shown in Table 4.

Before old age pensions may be paid to persons residing in the Yukon Territory an agreement must be made by the Governor in Council with the Gold Commissioner. As no agreement has been made, old age pensions are not payable in the Yukon Territory.

Under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act every agreement made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of a province continues in force so long as the provincial statute authorizing and providing for the payment of old age pensions remains in operation or until after the expiration of ten years from the date upon which notice of an intention to determine the agreement is given by the Governor General to the Lieutenant-Governor of the province with which the agreement was made.

### 2. *Administration of Old Age Pensions.*

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that before any agreement made pursuant to the Act comes into operation the scheme for the administration of pensions proposed to be adopted by the province must be approved by the Governor in Council and that no change in the scheme may be made by the province without the consent of the Governor in Council.

The provincial schemes which were approved prior to April 1, 1941, were not altered during the fiscal year 1941-42.

The following boards, commissions or branches of the provincial governments were responsible for the administration of the Act:

Alberta.....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton. Chairman—J. F. Percival, Esq.
British Columbia.....	The Workmen's Compensation Board, Vancouver. Chairman—E. S. H. Winn, Esq.
Manitoba.....	The Workmen's Compensation Board, Winnipeg. Chairman—Major C. K. Newcombe.
New Brunswick.....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton. Chairman—J. W. Niles, Esq.
Nova Scotia.....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax. Chairman—Ernest H. Blois, Esq.
Ontario.....	The Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto. Chairman—J. A. Faulkner, M.D.
Prince Edward Island.	The Old Age Pensions Commission, Charlottetown. Chairman—Peter D. Trainor, Esq.
Quebec.....	The Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec. President—J. R. Forest, Esq.
Saskatchewan.....	The Old Age Pensions Branch, Regina. Commissioner—W. C. Mills, Esq.

The records upon which the decisions of the pension authorities are made are subject to examination by the Department of Finance and the Auditor General of Canada.

### 3. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations.

Under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Regulations the pension authority is required to take into account income received from all sources in calculating the pensioner's income for the purpose of paying old age pension. Among other things the pension authority must include as income contributions by children or contributions reasonably expected to be made by children. In a number of cases pensioners receive pay assigned by members of the armed forces of Canada. As pay assigned by a member of the armed forces to a pensioner may be held in trust for the member of the forces or may be used for some purpose not connected with the support of the pensioner it was decided that the pension authorities should be authorized to disregard assigned pay where no dependents allowance was awarded to the pensioner or the pensioner's spouse. The Regulations were therefore amended by the Governor in Council. All provinces gave their consent and the amendment came into force on April 25, 1942, the date of its publication in the *Canada Gazette*.

In order to give additional assistance to persons in receipt of pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act the Governments of British Columbia and Alberta have made provision for the payment of cost of living allowances or supplemental allowances. Under existing regulations a supplemental allowance paid by the province would be taken into account by the pension authority in calculating the income of the pensioner. The Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta have requested the Dominion to amend the Old Age Pensions Regulations to allow the pension authority to disregard provincial supplemental allowances for the purpose of paying old age pension. As the Dominion recognizes that there are differences in living conditions, cost of living, living standards and social outlook in the different provinces it has agreed to make the amendment to the Regulations requested by the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta. The amendment to the Regulations will apply only in these two provinces.

#### 4. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada.

During the fiscal year April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1942, the Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of old age pensions amounted to \$28,530,907.52. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1942, was 185,922.

The following table shows the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1937-38 to 1941-42:

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Date Act effective	Year ending Mar. 31, 1938	Year ending Mar. 31, 1939	Year ending Mar. 31, 1940	Year ending Mar. 31, 1941	Year ending Mar. 31, 1942
Alberta.....	Aug. 1, 1929	52.83	55.04	57.45	56.56	52.15
British Columbia.....	Sept. 1, 1927	42.55	45.82	48.80	49.79	39.09
Manitoba.....	Sept. 1, 1928	52.70	53.94	55.57	55.33	50.80
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936	59.61	61.61	62.61	61.83	56.09
Nova Scotia.....	Mar. 1, 1934	50.66	51.88	52.63	51.62	49.26
Ontario.....	Nov. 1, 1929	35.16	35.82	36.16	35.89	34.24
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933	31.07	32.31	34.11	33.12	32.53
Quebec.....	Aug. 1, 1936	48.37	49.67	50.29	49.48	48.30
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928	53.35	55.17	56.41	59.60	60.05

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1st in each year.

The number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1927-28 to 1941-42 and the Dominion's contributions during the same period are shown in the following tables:—

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGF PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1941-42

	1927-1928	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931	1931-1932	1932-1933	1933-1934	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
Alberta.....		2,017	3,287	4,382	5,244	6,286	7,151	8,086	9,100	9,726	10,175	10,677	10,746	10,952	
British Columbia.....	2,712	3,867	4,576	5,557	6,486	7,128	8,095	9,076	10,011	10,824	11,563	12,504	13,386	13,942	14,464
Manitoba.....	3,953	5,104	5,834	7,190	8,280	9,236	10,229	10,862	11,559	11,800	12,128	12,560	12,727	12,701	
New Brunswick.....							6,509	12,241	13,044	9,803	11,142	11,564	11,815	11,747	11,779
Nova Scotia.....								13,456	13,827	14,221	14,502	14,454	14,285		
Ontario.....	26,370	37,334	41,300	42,853	46,281	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530	58,858	59,717	59,224	59,332		
Prince Edward Island.....							1,258	1,439	1,659	1,768	1,811	1,891	2,007	1,987	1,952
Quebec.....									22,620	46,490	47,939	48,797	48,000	47,338	
Saskatchewan.....	2,768	4,482	5,913	7,643	8,195	9,203	10,137	10,706	11,436	11,775	12,227	12,567	13,111	13,211	
Northwest Territories.....		4	5	5	5	5	7	7	8	9	7	7	8	8	
	2,712	10,588	42,553	57,930	67,006	71,705	86,873	101,051	108,415	146,524	175,673	181,514	186,035	185,946	185,922

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1927-28 to 1941-42

—	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....			62,555 15	320,363 50	645,367 48
British Columbia.....	131,452 01	399,340 95	357,801 04	580,841 45	1,032,840 50
Manitoba.....		242,303 86	427,143 44	652,803 80	1,128,222 34
New Brunswick.....					
Nova Scotia.....			355,828 97	3,516,805 90	6,039,971 87
Ontario.....					
Prince Edward Island.....					
Quebec.....		191,041 97	333,287 21	585,940 81	1,184,539 97
Saskatchewan.....			557 74	1,387 06	1,467 71
Northwest Territories.....	131,452 01	832,686 78	1,537,173 55	5,658,142 52	10,032,409 87

—	1932-33	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	827,830 32	934,387 91	1,070,901 17	1,224,104 53	1,409,059 79
British Columbia.....	1,176,242 75	1,304,144 08	1,478,313 72	1,672,830 60	1,823,267 82
Manitoba.....	1,362,137 75	1,516,372 06	1,655,955 90	1,797,144 68	1,922,415 33
New Brunswick.....					868,308 30
Nova Scotia.....		69,270 71	1,479,899 16	1,661,101 81	1,764,915 17
Ontario.....	6,827,955 49	7,085,839 82	7,671,618 81	8,677,034 05	9,146,837 58
Prince Edward Island.....		74,125 02	128,855 76	148,007 47	161,527 62
Quebec.....					2,345,107 05
Saskatchewan.....	1,316,956 68	1,328,057 26	1,455,195 60	1,582,604 89	1,706,190 29
Northwest Territories.....	1,419 74	1,398 07	1,719 24	1,655 84	1,722 57
	11,512,542 73	12,313,594 93	14,942,459 36	16,764,483 87	21,149,351 52

—	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48	1,778,022 53	1,797,083 27
British Columbia.....	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	2,331,331 44	2,403,312 55
Manitoba.....	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	2,106,858 53	2,087,719 03
New Brunswick.....	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	1,551,711 34	1,559,883 08
Nova Scotia.....	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	1,941,171 82	1,936,831 62
Ontario.....	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	9,814,403 80	9,772,690 43
Prince Edward Island.....	167,330 33	179,121 07	193,970 13	203,135 81	200,171 11
Quebec.....	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34	7,199,832 61	6,762,038 15
Saskatchewan.....	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	1,973,786 81	2,009,282 60
Northwest Territories.....	1,714 56	1,898 91	1,764 41	1,678 06	1,895 68
	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90	28,901,932 75	28,530,907 52

\* Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include amounts paid out by the provinces which paid fifty per cent of the cost of pensions up to November 1, 1931, and twenty-five per cent thereafter. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions the provinces pay the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of pensions for the country as a whole for the fiscal year 1941-42 may be estimated at approximately \$38,750,000.

*3. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions*

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1942, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1942, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1942, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1941, taking into account the preliminary figures of the 1941 Census:

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1942

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective Mar. 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	10,932	14,164	12,701	11,770	14,285	39,232
Average monthly pension.....	\$18.63	\$19.02	\$18.70	\$14.89	\$15.03	\$18.66
Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.39	1.79	1.76	2.60	2.49	1.58
Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	2.66	4.57	3.46	4.64	5.06	4.60
Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	52.15	39.03	50.80	56.09	49.26	34.24
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1942.....	\$14,193.71	\$605,543.11	\$515,775.79	\$392,113.16	\$184,117.91	\$2,446,448.88
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1941 to March 31, 1942.....	\$1,777,033.27	\$2,403,312.55	\$2,057,719.03	\$1,559,883.08	\$1,936,831.62	\$9,772,630.43
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.....	\$20,978,803.98	\$20,450,546.16	\$8,284,179.48	\$14,469,749.43	\$97,822,461.70	
Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan				Northwest Territories
Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928				Totals
Number of pensioners.....	1,952	47,338	13,211	8	135,922	
Average monthly pension.....	\$11.32	\$16.20	\$17.17	\$20.00	.....	
Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	2.08	1.43	1.49	0.07	.....	
Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	6.38	2.95	2.48	0.91	.....	
Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	32.53	48.30	60.05	8.00	.....	
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1942.....	\$19,440.30	\$1,703,063.74	\$507,868.66	\$472.54	\$7,134,817.83	
Dominion Government contributions April 1, 1941 to March 31, 1942.....	\$200,171.11	\$6,762,038.15	\$2,003,282.60	\$1,895.68	\$28,530,907.52	
Dominion Government contributions from inception of Act.....	\$1,450,244.38	\$40,088,484.79	\$19,140,022.30	\$20,279.59	\$238,195,639.65	

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

The agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces for the payment of pensions for blind persons continued in force during the fiscal year April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1942. No changes were made in the agreements. Provision is made for the payment of pensions by the Dominion to blind persons residing in the Northwest Territories. No person residing in the Northwest Territories has made application for a pension in respect of blindness. Pensions for blind persons are not payable to persons residing in the Yukon Territory as no agreement has been made by the Governor in Council with the authorities of that part of Canada.

The agreements in force during the fiscal year 1941-42 became effective on the following dates:—

Alberta.....	March 7, 1938
British Columbia.....	December 1, 1937
Manitoba.....	September 1, 1937
New Brunswick.....	September 1, 1937
Nova Scotia.....	October 1, 1937
Ontario.....	September 1, 1937
Prince Edward Island.....	December 1, 1937
Quebec.....	October 1, 1937
Saskatchewan.....	November 15, 1937
Northwest Territories.....	March 30, 1938

The amount which the Dominion paid to each province on account of pensions for blind persons during the fiscal year 1941-42 is shown in Table 6.

### *2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.*

Before any agreement made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of a province comes into operation the scheme for the administration of pensions for blind persons which the province proposes to adopt must be approved by the Governor in Council. No change may be made in any scheme which has been approved without the consent of the Governor in Council.

The provincial schemes for the administration of pensions for blind persons which were approved prior to April 1, 1941, were not altered during the fiscal year 1941-42.

In all provinces the pension authority responsible for the administration of old age pensions is also responsible for the administration of pensions for blind persons. The same procedure is followed in dealing with applications for pensions for blind persons as in cases where persons apply for old age pensions except that Dominion medical officers decide whether or not each applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and the Regulations made thereunder. The decisions of the medical officers are based on the reports of oculists and other evidence obtained from provincial authorities and private organizations. Where a medical examination is required the cost of the examination is paid by the Dominion. During the fiscal year 1941-42 the Dominion paid \$4,440 for medical examinations made by oculists appointed by the Department of Pensions and National Health to examine applicants for pensions in respect of blindness.

### 3. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations.

The amendments to the Regulations in regard to the calculation of income received by the pensioner where the pensioner receives assigned pay from a member of the armed forces or a supplemental allowance from the government of the province will apply to pensions for blind persons as well as to old age pensions. During the fiscal year 1941-42 there were no changes in the regulations which apply only to blind pensioners.

### 4. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal year April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1942, amounted to \$1,080,888.63.

The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1942, was 6,243.

The following table (Table 5) shows the Dominion's contributions on account of Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal years 1937-38 to 1941-42 and the number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness at the end of each fiscal year.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1941-42 AND DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1941-42

Province	Number of Pensioners					Dominion's Contributions				
	1937- 1938 1938	1938- 1939 1939	1939- 1940 1940	1940- 1941 1941	1941- 1942 1942	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
						\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta		146	183	197	215	.....	19,289 81	30,064 83	33,607 58	36,780 14
British Columbia	76	232	290	301	327	3,025 41	37,323 55	46,626 94	50,564 46	55,163 66
Manitoba	98	206	268	307	327	6,412 39	33,506 77	42,471 01	51,033 74	56,228 04
New Brunswick	114	510	652	704	740	8,993 93	86,516 77	108,624 41	121,246 70	128,292 16
Nova Scotia	171	493	573	610	620	11,984 87	74,418 04	91,261 80	102,375 34	105,970 09
Ontario	683	1,154	1,333	1,448	1,506	38,535 29	199,162 73	225,446 58	248,975 03	264,006 67
Prince Edward Island	41	104	115	116	115	660 12	10,518 23	13,207 31	14,337 93	14,071 95
Quebec	710	1,453	1,741	1,947	2,079	57,028 46	263,451 54	294,276 96	336,873 46	365,525 53
Saskatchewan	53	214	249	283	314	1,777 76	36,166 98	43,943 25	50,752 69	54,850 39
	1,946	4,512	5,404	5,913	6,243	128,418 25	760,354 42	895,923 09	1,009,766 93	1,080,888 63

The figures shown in Table 5 do not include the amounts paid out by the provinces which pay twenty-five per cent of the cost of Pensions for Blind Persons and the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of Pensions for Blind Persons for the country as a whole for the fiscal year April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1942, may be estimated at approximately \$1,450,000.

*5. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons.*

The following table (Table 6) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1941-42; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1942, for the fiscal year 1941-42, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1942:—

TABLE 6.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA  
AS AT MARCH 31, 1942

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	215	327	327	740	620	1,506			
Average monthly pension.....	\$19.69	\$19.30	\$19.67	\$19.66	\$19.21	\$19.68			
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.027	.040	.045	.163	.108	.040			
Dominion Government contributions for Quarter ended March 31, 1942.....	\$9,494.78	\$14,290.76	\$14,278.56	\$32,664.02	\$26,798.96	\$66,861.51			
Dominion Government contributions, April 1, 1941, to March 31, 1942.....	\$36,780.14	\$55,163.66	\$56,228.04	\$128,292.16	\$105,070.03	\$264,006.67			
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$119,742.36	\$192,704.02	\$189,651.95	\$453,673.97	\$386,010.14	\$976,126.30			
	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Totals					
Number of pensioners.....	115	2,079	314						
Average monthly pension.....	\$13.58	\$19.53	\$19.88						
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.122	.063	.035						
Dominion Government contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1942.....	\$3,497.96	\$92,206.97	\$14,031.90						
Dominion Government contributions, April 1, 1941 to March 31, 1942.....	\$14,071.95	\$85,325.53	\$54,850.39						
Dominion Government contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$32,705.54	\$1,317,155.97	\$187,491.07						

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as June 1, 1941, taking into account the preliminary figures of the 1941 Census—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 7—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1942

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total	
				Old Age	Blind		
	Old Age	Blind		\$ cts.	\$ cts.		
Alberta.....	10,952	215	11,167	15,024,817 84	119,742 36	15,144,560 29	
British Columbia.....	14,464	327	14,791	20,938,803 98	192,704 02	21,131,508 00	
Manitoba.....	12,701	327	13,028	20,950,546 16	189,651 95	21,140,198 11	
New Brunswick.....	11,779	740	12,519	28,248,179 48	483,673 97	8,737,853 45	
Nova Scotia.....	14,285	620	14,905	14,469,799 43	386,010 14	14,855,809 57	
Ontario.....	59,232	1,506	60,738	97,822,461 70	976,126 30	98,798,588 00	
Prince Edward Island.....	1,952	115	2,067	1,456,244 38	32,795 54	1,509,039 92	
Quebec.....	47,338	2,079	49,417	40,088,484 79	1,317,155 97	41,405,640 76	
Saskatchewan.....	13,211	314	13,525	19,140,022 30	187,491 07	19,327,513 37	
Northwest Territories.....	8	8	8	20,279 59	.....	20,279 59	
	185,922	6,243	192,165	238,195,639 65	3,875,351 32	242,070,990 97	

TABLE 8.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1940-41 AND 1941-42

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1941	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1942	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1940-41	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1941-42	Net increase or decrease in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly Pension	
							March 31, 1941	March 31, 1942
							\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	10,746	10,952	206	1,778,022 53	1,797,083 27	19,060 74	18 56	18 63
British Columbia.....	13,942	14,464	522	2,331,331 44	2,403,312 55	71,981 11	19 12	19 02
Manitoba.....	12,727	12,701	- 26	2,106,885 53	2,087,719 03	- 19,139 50	18 70	18 70
New Brunswick.....	11,747	11,779	32	1,551,711 34	1,559,885 08	8,171 74	14 65	14 89
Nova Scotia.....	14,454	14,285	-169	1,941,171 82	1,936,883 62	- 4,340 20	14 92	15 06
Ontario.....	59,224	59,232	8	9,814,403 80	9,772,690 43	- 41,713 37	18 56	18 66
Prince Edward Island.....	1,987	1,952	- 35	203,155 81	200,171 11	- 2,964 70	11 32	11 32
Quebec.....	48,000	47,338	- 662	7,199,832 61	6,762,038 15	- 437,794 46	15 66	16 20
Saskatchewan.....	13,111	13,211	100	1,973,786 61	2,009,282 60	35,495 79	16 93	17 17
Northwest Territories.....	8	8	.....	1,678 06	1,895 68	217 62	20 00	20 00
	185,946	185,922	-24	28,901,932 75	28,530,907 52	-371,025 23	.....	.....

TABLE 9.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1940-41 AND 1941-42

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1941	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1942	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1940-41	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1941-42	Net increase or decrease in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly Pension		
							March 31, 1941	March 31, 1942	
							\$ cts.	\$ cts.	
Alberta.....	197	215	18	33,607 58	36,780 14	3,172 56	19 51	19 69	
British Columbia.....	301	327	26	50,564 46	55,163 66	4,599 20	19 64	19 30	
Manitoba.....	307	327	20	51,033 74	56,226 04	5,194 30	19 63	19 67	
New Brunswick.....	704	740	36	121,246 70	128,292 16	7,045 46	19 64	19 66	
Nova Scotia.....	610	620	10	102,375 34	105,970 09	3,594 75	19 20	19 21	
Ontario.....	1,448	1,506	58	248,975 03	264,006 67	15,031 64	19 65	19 68	
Prince Edward Island.....	118	115	- 1	14,337 93	14,071 95	- 265 98	13 87	13 58	
Quebec.....	1,947	2,079	132	336,873 46	365,525 53	28,652 07	19 50	19 53	
Saskatchewan.....	283	314	31	50,752 69	54,850 39	4,097 70	19 92	19 88	
Northwest Territories.....	5,913	6,243	330	1,009,766 93	1,080,888 63	71,121 70	.....	.....	



W  
-214  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA

Report on the

Administration of Old Age Pensions  
AND  
Pensions For Blind Persons  
In Canada

Under the provisions of the

Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156 Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

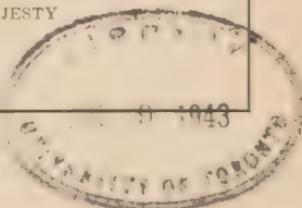
As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1943

EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1943





*To His Excellency Major-General the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone,  
K.G., P.C., G.C.B., G.M.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., A.D.C., Governor General  
and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:**

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1943, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. ILSLEY,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1943.

The Honourable J. L. ILSLEY,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1943, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1943.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	<i>PAGE</i>
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	7
2. Administration of Old Age Pensions.....	7
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	8
4. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada.....	9
5. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	11

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	12
2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	12
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	12
4. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons in Canada.....	12
5. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	14



# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1942-1943

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

The agreements which the Governor in Council made with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces between the years 1927 and 1936 continued in force during the fiscal year April 1, 1942 to March 31, 1943. Under the terms of the agreements the provinces are required to administer old age pensions in accordance with the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations. The Dominion reimburses the provinces seventy-five per cent of the net sum paid out for pensions. The Dominion also pays pensions in the Northwest Territories. As no agreement has been made by the Governor in Council with the Gold Commissioner of the Yukon Territory as required by the Old Age Pensions Act pensions are not payable in that part of Canada.

The payment of old age pensions became effective in the nine provinces and in the Northwest Territories on the following dates:—

Alberta.....	August 1, 1929
British Columbia.....	September 1, 1927
Manitoba.....	September 1, 1928
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936
Nova Scotia.....	March 1, 1934
Ontario.....	November 1, 1929
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933
Quebec.....	August 1, 1936
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928
Northwest Territories.....	January 25, 1929

The amount paid by the Dominion during the fiscal year 1942-43 to each of the nine provinces for old age pensions and the amount paid by the Dominion to pensioners residing in the Northwest Territories are shown in Table 4.

### 2. *Administration of Old Age Pensions.*

A change in the scheme for the administration of old age pensions in British Columbia was agreed upon by Dominion and Provincial authorities. Under the new scheme a board to be known as the "Old-age Pension Board" will administer pensions in place of the Workmen's Compensation Board. The members of the Old-age Pension Board were appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of British Columbia as from April 1, 1943. The new scheme was approved by Order in Council P.C. 2771, dated April 6, 1943.

There were no changes during the fiscal year 1942-43 in the schemes for the administration of old age pensions in the other eight provinces.

The following boards, commissions or branches of the provincial governments are responsible for the administration of the Act:—

Alberta.....	Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton. Chairman—J. F. Percival.
British Columbia.....	Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver. Chairman—James Hugh Creighton.
Manitoba.....	Workmen's Compensation Board, Winnipeg. Chairman—Major C. K. Newcombe.
New Brunswick.....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton. Chairman—J. W. Niles.
Nova Scotia.....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax. Chairman—Ernest H. Blois.
Ontario.....	Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto. Chairman—J. A. Faulkner, M.D.
Prince Edward Island.....	The Old Age Pensions Commission, Charlottetown. Chairman—Peter D. Trainor.
Quebec.....	Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec. President—J. R. Forest.
Saskatchewan.....	The Old Age Pensions Branch, Regina. Commissioner—W. C. Mills.

The Department of Finance is responsible for the Dominion's part in the administration of old age pensions.

### *3. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations.*

The Dominion notified the provinces during the fiscal year 1941-42 that the Old Age Pensions Regulations would be amended to allow the payment of supplemental allowances by any province without affecting the amount of pension payable under the Old Age Pensions Act. A number of the provinces have undertaken to provide additional assistance for persons in receipt of old age pensions by granting supplemental allowances. The Old Age Pensions Regulations were amended during the fiscal year 1942-43 for this purpose at the request of four provinces, namely, British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Manitoba. The amendments to the Regulations were authorized by the following Orders in Council:—

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| (1) British Columbia..... | P.C. 9/3183, dated April 21, 1942.     |
| (2) Alberta.....          | P.C. 9/3183, dated April 21, 1942.     |
| (3) Ontario.....          | P.C. 23/11160, dated December 9, 1942. |
| (4) Manitoba.....         | P.C. 17/1280, dated February 17, 1943. |

The only other amendment to the Old Age Pensions Regulations made in the fiscal year 1942-43 dealt with the calculation of income in cases where only one of two spouses living together is eligible to receive a pension. The regulations provide that where an applicant is one of two spouses living together his or her income shall be taken to be equal to one-half of the sum of the incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided (excluding any pension payable to the spouse under the Act) receivable by each of them separately. The amendment makes a distinction between two spouses both of whom are eligible to receive pensions and two spouses where only one can qualify for pension. A new paragraph inserted in Regulation 18 provides that where an applicant for an old age pension is married to and living with a spouse not in receipt of pension under the Act the income of the applicant shall be taken to be equal to the sum of their joint incomes calculated as in the Act and the Regulations provided, less the sum of \$365.

The amendment was approved by all provinces and came into force on May 8, 1943, the date of the publication in the *Canada Gazette* of Order in Council P.C. 19/2590, dated March 31, 1943.

#### 4. Cost of Old Age Pensions in Canada.

During the fiscal year April 1, 1942 to March 31, 1943, the Dominion's contribution to the provinces on account of old age pensions amounted to \$28,861,185.55. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1943 was 183,601.

The following tables (Tables 1, 2 and 3) show the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1938-39 to 1942-43, the number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1933-34 to 1942-43 and the Dominion's contributions during the same period:—

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Year ended Mar. 31, 1939	Year ended Mar. 31, 1940	Year ended Mar. 31, 1941	Year ended Mar. 31, 1942	Year ended Mar. 31, 1943
Alberta.....	55.04	57.45	56.56	52.15	46.39
British Columbia.....	45.82	48.80	49.79	39.09	35.87
Manitoba.....	53.94	55.57	55.33	50.80	44.64
New Brunswick.....	61.61	62.61	61.83	56.09	56.28
Nova Scotia.....	51.88	52.63	51.62	49.26	46.93
Ontario.....	35.82	36.16	35.89	34.24	30.85
Prince Edward Island.....	32.31	34.11	33.12	32.53	31.73
Quebec.....	49.67	50.29	49.48	48.30	44.38
Saskatchewan.....	55.17	56.41	59.60	60.05	48.42

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1st in each year.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1933-34 TO 1942-43

—	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
Alberta.....	6,286	7,151	8,086	9,100	9,726	10,175	10,677	10,746	10,952	11,134
British Columbia.....	8,095	9,076	10,011	10,824	11,563	12,504	13,386	13,942	14,464	14,348
Manitoba.....	9,236	10,229	10,862	11,559	11,800	12,128	12,580	12,727	12,701	12,498
New Brunswick.....				9,803	11,142	11,564	11,815	11,747	11,779	11,818
Nova Scotia.....	6,509	12,241	13,044	13,456	13,827	14,221	14,502	14,454	14,285	14,080
Ontario.....	46,281	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530	58,858	59,717	59,224	59,232	57,692
Prince Edward Island.....	1,25*	1,439	1,659	1,74*	1,811	1,861	2,007	1,987	1,952	1,904
Quebec.....				22,620	46,490	47,939	48,797	48,000	47,338	47,045
Saskatchewan.....	9,203	10,137	10,706	11,436	11,773	12,227	12,567	13,111	13,211	13,074
Northwest Territories.....	5	7	7	8	9	7	7	8	8	8
	86,873	101,051	108,415	146,524	175,673	181,514	186,035	185,946	185,922	183,601

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1932-33 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 9).

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1933-34 TO 1942-43

—	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	934,387 91	1,070,901 17	1,224,104 53	1,409,059 79	1,560,571 47
British Columbia.....	1,304,144 08	1,478,313 72	1,672,830 60	1,823,267 82	1,955,951 01
Manitoba.....	1,516,372 06	1,655,955 90	1,797,144 68	1,922,415 33	1,997,107 90
New Brunswick.....				868,308 30	1,333,673 27
Nova Scotia.....	69,270 71	1,479,899 16	1,661,101 81	1,764,915 17	1,836,704 46
Ontario.....	7,085,839 82	7,671,618 81	8,677,034 05	9,146,837 58	9,527,468 70
Prince Edward Island.....	74,125 02	128,855 76	148,007 47	161,527 62	167,330 39
Quebec.....				2,345,107 05	*8,386,230 60
Saskatchewan.....	1,328,057 26	1,455,195 60	1,582,604 89	1,706,190 29	1,757,834 87
Northwest Territories.....	1,398 07	1,719 24	1,655 84	1,722 57	1,714 56
	12,313,594 93	14,942,459 36	16,764,483 87	21,149,351 52	28,524,587 23

—	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48	1,778,022 53	1,797,083 27	1,833,573 90
British Columbia.....	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	2,331,331 44	2,403,312 55	2,443,152 70
Manitoba.....	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	2,106,858 53	2,087,719 03	2,093,379 84
New Brunswick.....	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	1,551,711 34	1,559,883 08	1,606,402 93
Nova Scotia.....	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	1,941,171 82	1,936,831 62	1,948,074 78
Ontario.....	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	9,814,403 80	9,772,690 43	9,633,658 55
Prince Edward Island.....	179,121 07	193,970 13	203,135 81	200,171 11	208,587 31
Quebec.....	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34	7,199,832 61	6,762,038 15	7,048,885 34
Saskatchewan.....	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	1,973,786 81	2,009,282 60	2,043,409 91
Northwest Territories.....	1,898 91	1,764 41	1,678 06	1,895 68	2,060 66
	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90	28,901,932 75	28,530,907 52	28,861,185 55

\* Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1932-33 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (page 10).

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include amounts paid out by the provinces. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions the provinces pay the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of pensions for the country as a whole for the fiscal year 1942-43, including the cost of administration, may be estimated at approximately \$39,250,000.

### 5. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1943, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1943, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1943, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1942.

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1943

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective Mar. 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929	
Number of pensioners.....	11,134	14,348	12,498	11,818	14,080	57,692	
Average monthly pension.....	\$18.69	\$19.28	\$18.78	\$15.27	\$15.65	\$18.86	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.38	1.74	1.69	2.54	2.40	1.51	
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	2.98	4.85	3.79	4.52	5.11	4.89	
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	46.39	35.87	44.64	56.28	46.93	30.85	
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1943.....	\$460,148.88	\$608,949.16	\$518,505.28	\$403,745.91	\$489,637.10	\$2,404,302.85	
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1942 to March 31, 1943.....	\$1,833,573.90	\$2,443,152.70	\$2,093,379.84	\$1,606,402.93	\$1,948,074.78	\$9,633,658.18	
Dominion Government's contribution from inception of Act.....	\$16,888,391.74	\$23,381,936.68	\$23,043,926.00	\$9,890,582.41	\$16,417,874.21	\$107,450,119.88	
	Prince Edward Island		Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals	
	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928	Act effective May 1, 1928	Act-in-Council effective Jan. 25, 1929		
Number of pensioners.....	1,904	47,045	13,074	13,074	8	183,601	
Average monthly pension.....	\$13.48	\$17.20	\$17.53	\$20.00	.....	.....	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.98	1.33	1.44	0.07	.....	.....	
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	6.25	3.13	2.98	1.65	.....	.....	
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	31.73	44.38	48.42	4.00	.....	.....	
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1943.....	\$56,792.98	\$1,798,228.33	\$305,082.03	\$455.04	\$7,245,847.56	\$28,801,185.55	
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1942 to March 31, 1943.....	\$208,587.31	\$7,018,855.34	\$2,643,409.91	\$2,010.66	\$267,036,825.20	\$267,036,825.20	
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Act.....	\$1,694,831.69	\$47,137,370.13	\$21,183,432.21	\$22,340.23			

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1942—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

There were no changes during the fiscal year 1942-43 in the agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the provinces for the payment of pensions in respect of blindness. Pensions for blind persons are payable in all parts of Canada except the Yukon Territory.

The agreements in force during the fiscal year 1942-43 became effective on the following dates:—

Alberta .....	March 7, 1938
British Columbia.....	December 1, 1937
Manitoba.....	September 1, 1937
New Brunswick.....	September 1, 1937
Nova Scotia.....	October 1, 1937
Ontario.....	September 1, 1937
Prince Edward Island.....	December 1, 1937
Quebec.....	October 1, 1937
Saskatchewan.....	November 15, 1937
Northwest Territories.....	March 30, 1938

### *2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.*

Pensions for blind persons are administered by the pension authorities responsible for the administration of old age pensions. The new board in British Columbia mentioned in section A-2 of this report will administer pensions for blind persons in the province in place of the Workmen's Compensation Board. The schemes for the administration of pensions for blind persons in the other eight provinces were not altered during the fiscal year 1942-43.

Where necessary applicants for pensions in respect of blindness were examined by ophthalmologists employed by the Department of Pensions and National Health. In a number of cases pensioners were re-examined. The amount paid out by the Dominion for medical examinations during the fiscal year 1942-43 was \$3,310.

### *3. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations.*

During the fiscal year 1942-43 there were no changes in the Regulations which apply only to pensions in respect of blindness. The amendments to the Regulations authorizing the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario to disregard supplemental allowances awarded by the provincial governments to persons in receipt of pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act apply to pensions for blind persons as well as to old age pensions. The other amendment referred to in section A-3 of this report applies only to old age pensions.

### *4. Cost of Pensions for Blind Persons*

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of Pensions for Blind Persons for the fiscal year April 1, 1942 to March 31, 1943 amounted to \$1,114,828.30.

The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1943, was 6,374.

The following tables (Tables 5 and 6) show the number of blind persons receiving pensions at the end of each fiscal year from 1937-38 to 1942-43 and the Dominion's contributions on account of Pensions for Blind Persons during the same period:—

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1942-43

Province	Number of Pensioners					
	1937-1938	1938-1939	1939-1940	1940-1941	1941-1942	1942-1943
Alberta.....		146	183	197	215	239
British Columbia.....	76	232	290	301	327	334
Manitoba.....	98	206	268	307	327	348
New Brunswick.....	114	510	652	704	740	722
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	573	610	620	620
Ontario.....	683	1,154	1,333	1,448	1,506	1,502
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	115	116	115	116
Quebec.....	710	1,453	1,741	1,947	2,079	2,173
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	249	283	314	320
	1,946	4,512	5,404	5,913	6,243	6,374

TABLE 6.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1942-43

Province	Dominion's Contributions					
	1937-1938		1938-1939		1939-1940	
	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Alberta.....		19,289 81		30,064 83		33,607 58
British Columbia.....	3,025 41	37,323 55	46,626 94		50,564 46	55,163 66
Manitoba.....	6,412 39	33,506 77	42,471 01		51,033 74	56,228 04
New Brunswick.....	8,993 93	86,516 77	108,624 41		121,246 70	128,292 16
Nova Scotia.....	11,984 87	74,418 04	91,261 80		102,375 34	105,970 09
Ontario.....	38,535 29	199,162 73	225,446 58		248,975 03	264,006 67
Prince Edward Island.....	660 12	10,518 23	13,207 31		14,337 93	14,071 95
Quebec.....	57,028 48	263,451 54	294,276 96		336,873 46	365,525 53
Saskatchewan.....	1,777 76	36,166 98	43,943 25		50,752 69	54,850 39
	128,418 25	760,354 42	895,923 09		1,009,766 93	1,080,888 63
						1,114,828 30

The figures shown in Table 6 do not include the amounts paid out by the provinces which pay twenty-five per cent of the cost of Pensions for Blind Persons and the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of Pensions for Blind Persons for the country as a whole for the fiscal year April 1, 1942, to March 31, 1943, including the cost of administration, may be estimated at approximately \$1,510,000.

5. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons.*

The following table (Table 7) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1942-43; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1943, for the fiscal year 1942-43, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1943:—

TABLE 7.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1943

	Alberta Act effective Mar. 7, 1938	British Columbia Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Manitoba Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	New Brunswick Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Nova Scotia Act effective Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	239 \$19.76 .030	334 \$19.42 .040	348 \$19.72 .047	722 \$19.67 .155	620 \$19.22 .106
Average monthly pension.....					
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....					
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1943.....	\$10,593.21 \$40,968.59	\$14,700.64 \$58,363.31	\$14,634.50 \$59,752.81	\$32,181.66 \$129,585.11	\$26,789.27 \$107,396.52
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1942 to March 31, 1943, from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$160,710.95	\$251,067.33	\$249,404.76	\$583,259.08	\$493,406.66
	Ontario Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Prince Edward Island Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Quebec Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Saskatchewan Act effective Nov. 15, 1937	Totals
Number of pensioners.....	1,502 \$19.70 .039	116 \$16.14 .121	2,173 \$19.61 .064	320 \$19.86 .035	6,374
Average monthly pension.....					
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....					
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1943.....	\$66,305.99 \$266,354.07	\$4,222.66 \$15,249.06	\$97,056.38 \$375,129.29	\$14,375.60 \$88,029.54	\$280,859.91 \$1,114,828.30
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1942 to March 31, 1943, from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$1,242,480.37	\$68,044.60	\$1,696,285.26	\$245,520.61	\$4,990,179.62

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1942—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 8—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1943

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age	Blind			
Alberta.....	11,134	239	11,373	16,858,391 74	160,710 95	17,019,102 69		
British Columbia.....	14,348	334	14,682	23,381,956 68	251,067 33	23,633,024 01		
Manitoba.....	12,498	348	12,846	23,043,926 00	249,404 76	23,293,330 76		
New Brunswick.....	11,818	722	12,540	9,890,582 41	583,259 08	10,473,841 49		
Nova Scotia.....	14,080	620	14,700	16,417,874 21	493,406 66	16,911,280 87		
Ontario.....	57,692	1,502	59,194	107,456,119 88	1,242,480 37	108,698,600 25		
Prince Edward Island.....	1,904	116	2,020	1,664,831 69	68,044 60	1,732,876 29		
Quebec.....	47,045	2,173	49,218	47,137,370 13	1,696,285 26	48,833,655 39		
Saskatchewan.....	13,074	320	13,394	21,183,432 21	245,520 61	21,428,952 82		
Northwest Territories.....	8	.....	8	22,340 25	.....	22,340 25		
	183,601	6,374	189,975	267,056,825 20	4,990,179 62	272,047,004 82		

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1941-42 AND 1942-43

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1942	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1943	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1941-42	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1942-43	Net increase or decrease in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							March	
							1942	1943
Alberta.....	10,952	11,134	182	1,797,083 27	1,833,573 90	36,490 63	18 63	18 69
British Columbia.....	14,464	14,348	-116	2,403,312 55	2,443,152 70	39,840 15	19 02	19 28
Manitoba.....	12,701	12,498	-203	2,087,719 03	2,093,379 84	5,660 81	18 70	18 78
New Brunswick.....	11,779	11,818	39	1,559,883 05	1,604,402 93	46,519 85	14 89	15 27
Nova Scotia.....	14,285	14,080	-205	1,936,831 62	1,948,074 78	11,243 16	15 06	15 65
Ontario.....	59,232	57,692	-1,540	9,772,690 43	9,633,658 18	-139,032 25	18 66	18 86
Prince Edward Island.....	1,952	1,904	-48	200,171 11	208,587 31	8,416 20	11 32	13 48
Quebec.....	47,338	47,045	-293	8,782,038 15	7,045,885 34	286,847 19	16 20	17 20
Saskatchewan.....	13,211	13,074	-137	2,009,282 60	2,043,409 91	34,127 31	17 17	17 53
Northwest Territories.....	8	8	.....	1,895 68	2,060 66	164 98	20 00	20 00
	185,922	183,601	-2,321	28,530,907 52	28,861,185 55	330,278 03	.....	.....

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1941-42 AND 1942-43

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1942	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1943	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1941-42	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1942-43	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly Pension		
							March		March
							1942	1943	
Alberta.....	215	239	24	36,780 14	40,968 59	4,188 45	19 69	19 76	
British Columbia.....	327	334	7	55,163 66	58,363 31	3,199 65	19 30	19 42	
Manitoba.....	327	345	21	56,228 04	59,752 81	3,524 77	19 67	19 72	
New Brunswick.....	740	722	-18	123,292 16	129,585 11	1,232 95	19 66	19 67	
Nova Scotia.....	620	620	.....	105,970 09	107,396 52	1,426 43	19 21	19 22	
Ontario.....	1,506	1,502	-4	264,006 67	266,354 07	2,347 40	19 68	19 70	
Prince Edward Island.....	115	116	1	14,071 95	15,249 06	1,177 11	13 58	16 14	
Quebec.....	2,079	2,173	94	385,525 53	379,129 29	13,603 76	19 53	19 61	
Saskatchewan.....	314	320	6	54,850 39	58,029 54	3,179 15	19 85	19 86	
Northwest Territories.....	6,243	6,374	131	1,080,888 63	1,114,828 30	33,939 67	.....	.....	



DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA

Report on the  
Administration of Old Age Pensions  
AND  
Pensions For Blind Persons  
In Canada

Under the Provisions of the

Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156 Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

Order in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1944

EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1944

11 1944



*To His Excellency Major-General the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone,  
K.G., P.C., G.C.B., G.M.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., A.D.C., Governor General  
and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1944, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. ILSLEY,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1944.

The Honourable J. L. ILSLEY,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1944, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1944.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

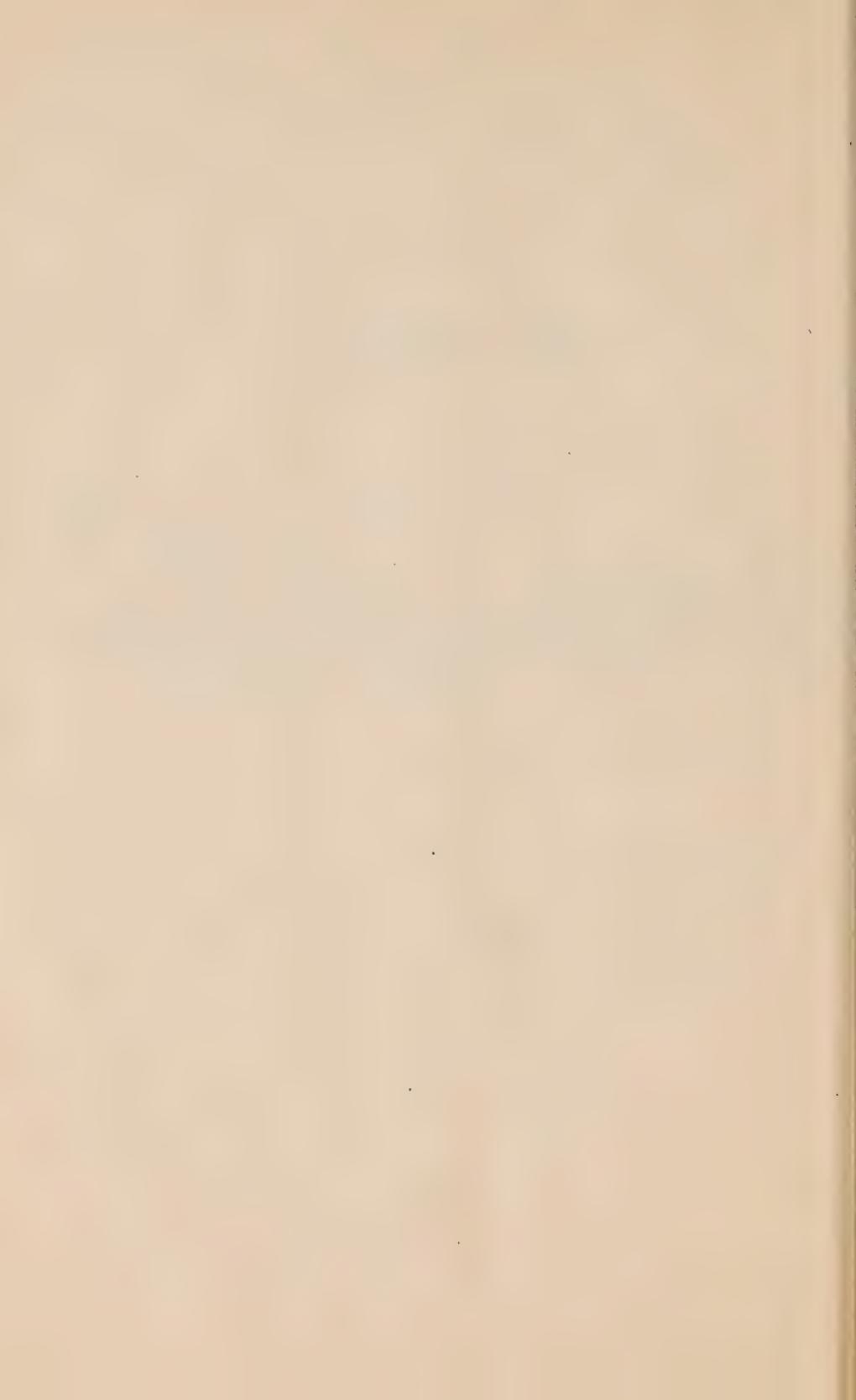
---

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	7
2. Administration of Old Age Pensions.....	7
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	8
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	8
5. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions.....	9
6. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	11

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	13
2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	13
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	13
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	13
5. Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	13
6. Financial and Statistical Summary .....	15



# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1943-1944

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

Under the agreements in force at the beginning of the fiscal year 1943-44 the maximum pension payable was \$240 a year. By the provisions of Order in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943, the Minister of Finance was authorized to make supplementary agreements with the provinces to provide for the payment of pensions based upon a maximum pension of \$300 a year. Supplementary agreements have been made by the Dominion with the nine provinces. Provision has also been made for the payment of the increase in pension to pensioners residing within the Northwest Territories. The dates on which the supplementary agreements with the provinces became effective and the date on which payment of pensions at the increased rate commenced in the Northwest Territories are as follows:—

British Columbia.....	
Alberta.....	
Saskatchewan.....	September 1, 1943
Manitoba.....	
Quebec.....	
Northwest Territories.....	
 Nova Scotia.....	
Prince Edward Island.....	October 1, 1943
 Ontario.....	
New Brunswick.....	November 1, 1943

The amount paid by the Dominion to each province for old age pensions and the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories for the fiscal year 1943-44 are shown in Table 4.

As no agreement has been made by the Governor in Council with the Gold Commissioner of the Yukon Territory as required by the Old Age Pensions Act Order in Council P.C. 6367 does not apply in that part of Canada.

### 2. *Administration of Old Age Pensions.*

Old age pensions are administered by pension authorities appointed by the provincial governments. Under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act the schemes for the administration of pensions proposed to be adopted by the provinces must be approved by the Governor in Council. A scheme which has been approved may not be changed without the consent of the Governor in Council.

There were no changes in the provincial schemes for the administration of old age pensions during the fiscal year 1943-44.

The following boards, commissions and branches of the provincial governments are responsible for the administration of old age pensions in the provinces—

Alberta.....	Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton. Chairman—J. F. Percival.
British Columbia.....	Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver. Chairman—James Hugh Creighton.
Manitoba.....	Workmen's Compensation Board, Winnipeg. Chairman—Major C. K. Newcombe.
New Brunswick.....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton. Chairman—J. W. Niles.
Nova Scotia.....	The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax. Chairman—Ernest H. Blois.
Ontario.....	Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto. Chairman—J. A. Faulkner, M.D.
Prince Edward Island.....	The Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown. Chairman—Peter D. Trainor.
Quebec.....	Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec. President—J. R. Forest.
Saskatchewan.....	The Old Age Pensions Branch, Regina. Commissioner—J. S. White.

The Department of Finance, Ottawa, is responsible for the Dominion's part in the administration of old age pensions and for the granting and paying of old age pensions to persons residing in the Northwest Territories.

### 3. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act.

Under the authority of the War Measures Act (Revised Statutes of Canada, Chap. 206) the Old Age Pensions Act was amended by Order in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943, to provide for the payment to old age pensioners of a maximum pension of \$300 a year (instead of \$240 a year) subject to reduction by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of \$65 a year. The amendment was made at the request of all the provinces.

Prior to the amendment the amount of income other than pension which a pensioner might have without causing a reduction in the amount of his pension was \$125 a year. As the maximum income (including pension) was not increased by Order in Council P.C. 6367 the amount of allowable income other than pension had to be reduced by \$60 in order to keep the maximum income (including pension) within the amount specified in the Act, namely, \$365 a year.

The Order in Council provides that the amount required to pay the Dominion's share (75%) of the increase in the amount of pensions paid under the authority of the Order in Council shall be a charge upon the War Appropriation.

### 4. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations.

At the request of the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan the Old Age Pensions Regulations were amended to permit the pension authority of Saskatchewan to disregard supplemental allowances paid by the Province to old age pensioners. The amendment to the Regulations was authorized by Order in Council P.C. 10/4120 dated May 19, 1943. The Order in Council was published in the *Canada Gazette* on June 5, 1943.

There were no other amendments to the Regulations during the fiscal year 1943-44.

### 5. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions.

During the fiscal year April 1, 1943 to March 31, 1944, the Dominion's contributions to the Provinces and payments to pensioners in the Northwest Territories amounted to \$32,195,592.11. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1944, was 181,384.

The following tables (Tables 1, 2 and 3) show the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1939-40 to 1943-44, the number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1934-35 to 1943-44 and the Dominion's payments for the same period.

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Year ended Mar. 31, 1940	Year ended Mar. 31, 1941	Year ended Mar. 31, 1942	Year ended Mar. 31, 1943	Year ended Mar. 31, 1944
Alberta.....	57.45	56.56	52.15	46.39	44.28
British Columbia.....	48.80	49.79	39.09	35.87	34.48
Manitoba.....	55.57	55.33	50.80	44.64	42.03
New Brunswick.....	62.61	61.83	56.09	56.28	56.40
Nova Scotia.....	52.63	51.62	49.26	46.93	44.64
Ontario.....	36.16	35.89	34.24	30.85	29.25
Prince Edward Island.....	34.11	33.12	32.53	31.73	31.47
Quebec.....	50.29	49.48	48.30	44.38	42.87
Saskatchewan.....	56.41	59.60	60.05	48.42	45.55

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1st in each year.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1934-35 TO 1943-44

	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44
Alberta.....	7,151	8,086	9,100	9,726	10,175	10,677	10,746	10,952	11,134	11,071
British Columbia.....	9,076	10,011	10,824	11,563	12,504	13,386	13,942	14,464	14,348	14,481
Manitoba.....	10,229	10,862	11,559	11,800	12,128	12,560	12,727	12,701	12,498	12,188
New Brunswick.....	.....	9,803	11,142	11,564	11,815	11,747	11,779	11,818	11,843	
Nova Scotia.....	12,241	13,044	13,456	13,827	14,221	14,502	14,454	14,285	14,080	13,838
Ontario.....	50,771	54,040	55,950	57,530	58,558	59,717	59,224	59,232	57,692	56,156
Prince Edward Island.....	1,439	1,659	1,768	1,811	1,891	2,007	1,987	1,952	1,904	1,888
Quebec.....	.....	22,620	46,490	47,939	48,797	48,000	47,338	47,045	47,153	
Saskatchewan.....	10,137	10,706	11,436	11,775	12,227	12,567	13,111	13,211	13,074	12,755
Northwest Territories.....	7	7	8	9	7	7	8	8	8	11
	101,051	108,415	146,524	175,673	181,514	186,035	185,946	185,922	183,601	181,384

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1933-34 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 9).

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1934-35 TO 1943-44

	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,070,901 17	1,224,104 53	1,409,059 79	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24
British Columbia.....	1,478,313 72	1,672,830 60	1,823,267 82	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36
Manitoba.....	1,655,955 90	1,797,144 68	1,922,415 33	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38
New Brunswick.....			868,308 30	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10
Nova Scotia.....	1,479,899 16	1,661,101 81	1,764,915 17	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83
Ontario.....	7,671,618 81	8,677,034 05	9,146,837 58	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34
Prince Edward Island.....	128,855 76	148,007 47	161,527 62	167,330 39	179,121 07
Quebec.....			2,345,107 05	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04
Saskatchewan.....	1,455,195 60	1,582,604 89	1,706,190 29	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84
Northwest Territories.....	1,719 24	1,655 84	1,722 57	1,714 56	1,898 91
	14,942,459 36	16,764,483 87	21,149,351 52	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11
	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,737,003 48	1,778,022 53	1,797,083 27	1,833,573 90	2,062,796 03
British Columbia.....	2,220,133 70	2,331,331 44	2,403,312 55	2,443,152 70	2,791,031 33
Manitoba.....	2,061,961 16	2,106,858 53	2,087,719 03	2,093,379 84	2,002,573 38
New Brunswick.....	1,530,249 39	1,551,711 34	1,559,883 08	1,606,402 93	1,732,670 49
Nova Scotia.....	1,913,180 85	1,941,171 82	1,936,831 62	1,948,074 78	2,137,241 68
Ontario.....	9,770,254 94	9,814,403 80	9,772,690 43	9,633,658 18	10,310,621 89
Prince Edward Island.....	193,970 13	203,133 81	200,171 11	208,587 31	208,515 03
Quebec.....	7,758,257 34	7,199,832 61	6,762,038 15	7,048,885 34	8,535,362 81
Saskatchewan.....	1,893,855 50	1,973,786 81	2,009,282 60	2,043,409 91	2,352,406 79
Northwest Territories.....	1,764 41	1,678 06	1,895 68	2,060 66	2,372 68
	29,080,630 90	28,901,932 75	28,530,907 52	28,861,185 55	32,195,592 11

\*Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1933-34 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (page 10).

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include amounts paid out by the provinces. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions the provinces pay the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of pensions for the country as a whole for the fiscal year 1943-44, including the cost of administration, may be estimated at approximately \$13,800,000. This estimate does not include the cost of supplemental allowances paid by certain provinces.

### 6. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions.

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1944, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1944, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1944, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1943:

TABLE 4—OLD AGE PENSIONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1944

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective Mar. 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	11,071	14,481	12,188	11,843	13,838	56,156
Average monthly pension.....	\$22.82	\$23.55	\$23.41	\$17.69	\$18.06	\$23.09
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.40	1.61	1.68	2.56	2.28	1.43
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	3.16	4.67	3.99	4.54	5.11	4.90
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	44.28	34.48	42.03	56.40	44.64	29.25
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1944 .....	\$554,854.08	\$756,294.43	\$490,341.42	\$470,098.13	\$363,139.84	\$2,936,382.90
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended Mar. 31, 1944. Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$94,005.90	\$141,551.98	†.....	\$29,530.03	\$29,604.24	\$533,440.06
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944 .....	\$2,062,796.03	\$2,791,031.33	\$2,002,573.38	\$1,732,670.49	\$2,137,241.68	\$10,310,421.89
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944. Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$215,632.25	\$325,234.26	†.....	\$39,550.93	\$52,258.72	\$850,553.99
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Act .....	\$19,921,187.77	\$26,172,988.01	\$25,045,499.38	\$11,623,252.90	\$18,555,115.80	\$117,766,741.77

6. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions.—Concluded*TABLE 4—OLD AGE PENSIONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1944  
*—Concluded*

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928	Order-in-Council effective Jan. 25, 1929	
Number of pensioners.....	1,888	47,153	12,755	11	181,384
Average monthly pension.....	\$18.53	\$22.54	\$23.00	\$24.55	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population .....	2.07	1.36	1.51	.09	.....
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population .....	6.59	3.18	3.33	1.61	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	31.47	42.87	45.55	5.70	.....
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended Mar. 31, 1944	\$78,334.05	\$2,375,549.22	\$719,164.22	\$811.61	\$8,944,869.90
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1944. Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$15,666.81	\$490,337.92	\$4207,767.35	\$153.32	\$1,542,057.61
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944.	\$268,515.03	\$8,535,362.81	\$2,352,496.79	\$2,372.68	\$32,195,592.11
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944. Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$31,213.58	\$1,135,904.54	\$292,829.87	\$311.02	\$2,943,494.16
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Act.....	\$1,933,346.72	\$55,672,732.94	\$23,535,839.00	\$24,712.93	\$299,252,417.31

\*Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1943—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

†Dominion Government's contributions under the War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944 amounting to \$288,541.49 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.

‡Includes amounts charged to War Appropriation for the months of September and October, 1943.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

The supplementary agreements made under the authority of Order in Council P.C. 6367, dated August 10, 1943, apply to pensions in respect of blindness as well as to old age pensions. The dates on which the increase in the maximum pension for blind persons became effective in the different provinces are, therefore, the same as those shown in section A-I of this report.

### *2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.*

The schemes for the administration of pension in respect of blindness which were approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1943, were not altered during the fiscal year 1943-44. The boards, commissions and branches of the provincial governments which administer old age pensions also administer pensions for blind persons.

The medical examinations required by the Old Age Pensions Regulations are made by ophthalmologists employed by the Department of Pensions and National Health. The Dominion pays the cost of these examinations. During the fiscal year 1943-44 the Dominion paid out for medical examinations the sum of \$3,385.00.

### *3. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

The increase in the maximum pension authorized by Order in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943, is payable to blind pensioners. The Order in Council provides that the maximum pension of \$300 a year shall be reduced by income in excess of \$140 a year in the case of a pensioner who is single or a widower or a widow without a child or children and \$340 a year in the case of a pensioner who is married or a widower or a widow with a child or children. Where the pensioner is married to a blind person receiving a pension under the Old Age Pensions Act the maximum allowable income is \$140 a year. In the case of a blind pensioner who marries a blind person the maximum allowable income is \$170 a year. The amount of pension payable to a blind person who marries a blind person is based upon one-half of the maximum pension.

The amount required to pay the Dominion's share of the increase in the amount of pensions in respect of blindness paid under Order in Council P.C. 6367 is chargeable to the War Appropriation.

### *4. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations.*

The amendment to the Regulations authorizing the pension authority of the Province of Saskatchewan to disregard supplemental allowances awarded to pensioners by the Province applies to pensions in respect of blindness as well as to old age pensions.

### *5. Dominion's payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons.*

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of pensions in respect of blindness for the fiscal year April 1, 1943 to March 31, 1944 amounted to \$1,244,030.13.

The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1944, was 6,374.

The following tables (Tables 5 and 6) show the number of persons receiving pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act at the end of each fiscal year from 1937-38 to 1943-44 and the Dominion's contributions on account of pensions for blind persons during the same period.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1943-44

Province	Number of Pensioners						
	1937-1938	1938-1939	1939-1940	1940-1941	1941-1942	1942-1943	1943-1944
Alberta.....		146	183	197	215	239	242
British Columbia.....	76	232	290	301	327	334	323
Manitoba.....	98	206	268	307	327	348	339
New Brunswick.....	114	510	652	704	740	722	710
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	573	610	620	620	633
Ontario.....	683	1,154	1,333	1,448	1,506	1,502	1,449
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	115	116	115	116	111
Quebec.....	710	1,453	1,741	1,947	2,079	2,173	2,250
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	249	283	314	320	317
	1,946	4,512	5,404	5,913	6,243	6,374	6,374

TABLE 6.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1943-44

Province	Dominion's Contributions						
	1937-1938	1938-1939	1939-1940	1940-1941	1941-1942	1942-1943	1943-1944
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	19,289 81	30,054 83	33,607 58	36,780 14	40,968 59	47,914 22	
British Columbia.....	3,025 41	37,323 55	46,626 94	50,564 46	55,163 66	58,363 31	65,828 76
Manitoba.....	6,412 39	33,506 77	42,471 01	51,033 74	56,228 04	59,752 81	60,199 34
New Brunswick.....	8,993 93	86,516 77	108,624 41	121,246 70	128,202 16	129,585 11	136,447 29
Nova Scotia.....	11,984 87	74,418 04	91,261 80	102,375 34	105,970 09	107,396 52	114,042 77
Ontario.....	38,535 29	199,162 73	225,446 58	248,975 03	264,006 67	266,354 07	283,956 32
Prince Edward Island.....	660 12	10,518 23	13,207 31	14,337 93	14,071 95	15,249 06	19,548 00
Quebec.....	57,028 48	263,451 54	294,276 96	336,873 46	365,525 53	379,129 29	452,061 25
Saskatchewan.....	1,777 76	36,166 98	43,943 25	50,752 69	54,850 39	58,029 54	64,035 18
	128,418 25	760,354 42	895,923 09	1,009,766 93	1,080,888 63	1,114,828 30	1,244,030 13

The figures shown in Table 6 do not include the amounts paid out by the provinces which pay twenty-five per cent of the cost of Pensions for Blind Persons and the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of Pensions for Blind Persons for the country as a whole for the fiscal year April 1, 1943, to March 31, 1944, including the cost of administration, may be estimated at approximately \$1,700,000. This estimate does not include the cost of supplemental allowances paid by certain provinces.

## 6. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons.

The following table (Table 7) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1943-44; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1944, for the fiscal year 1943-44, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1944;

TABLE 7.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1944

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia
	Act effective March 7, 1938	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....					
Average monthly pension					
*Percentage of pensioners to total population					
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1944	\$24.15	\$23	\$39	710	633
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1944	\$13,253.94	\$24.19 .036	\$24.22 .047	\$23.28 .183	\$21.21 .104
Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period		\$17,475.20	\$15,025.42	\$37,206.56	\$30,138.48
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944	\$2,508.34	\$3,365.26	†.....	\$5,714.62	\$2,650.45
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944	\$47,914.22	\$65,828.76	\$60,199.34	\$136,447.29	\$114,042.77
Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period					
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act	\$5,614.75	\$7,849.81	†.....	\$9,306.74	\$4,815.32
	\$208,625.17	\$316,896.09	\$300,604.10	\$719,706.37	\$607,449.43
	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Totals
	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Nov. 1, 1937	
Number of pensioners.....					
Average monthly pension					
*Percentage of pensioners to total population					
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1944	\$1,449	111	2,250	317	6,374
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1944	\$24.19 .037	\$22.41 .122	\$24.37 .065	\$24.34 .038	
Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period	\$77,833.55	\$5,575.21	\$124,703.67	\$18,658.55	\$339,870.58
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944	\$15,198.34	\$1,115.04	\$24,413.95	\$45,591.16	\$60,557.16
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1943—March 31, 1944	\$253,956.32	\$19,545.00	\$452,061.25	\$64,035.15	\$1,244,630.13
Included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period					
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act	\$24,532.09	\$2,251.22	\$56,417.19	\$7,873.09	\$118,660.21
	\$1,526,436.03	\$87,589.60	\$2,148,346.51	\$309,555.79	\$6,234,209.75

\*Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1943—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

<sup>†</sup>Dominion Government's contributions under the War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944 amounting to \$8,285.86 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.

†Includes amounts charged to War Appropriation for the months of September and October, 1943.

TABLE 8.—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1944

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind						
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.			
Alberta.....	11,071	242	11,313	18,921,187 77	208,625 17	19,129,812 94		
British Columbia.....	14,481	323	14,804	26,172,988 01	316,896 09	26,489,884 10		
Manitoba.....	12,188	339	12,527	25,046,499 38	309,604 10	25,356,103 28		
New Brunswick.....	11,843	710	12,553	11,623,252 90	719,706 37	12,342,959 27		
Nova Scotia.....	13,838	633	14,471	18,555,115 89	607,449 43	19,162,565 32		
Ontario.....	56,156	1,449	57,605	117,766,741 77	1,526,436 69	119,293,178 46		
Prince Edward Island.....	1,888	111	1,999	1,933,346 72	87,589 60	2,020,936 22		
Quebec.....	47,153	2,250	49,403	55,672,732 94	2,148,346 51	57,821,079 45		
Saskatchewan.....	12,755	317	13,072	23,535,839 00	309,555 79	23,845,394 79		
Northwest Territories.....	11.....	11.....	24,712 93	.....	.....	24,712 93		
	181,384	6,374	187,758	299,252,417 31	6,234,209 75	305,486,627 06		

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1942-43 AND 1943-44

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1943	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1944	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1942-43	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1943-44	Net increase or decrease in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							\$	\$
Alberta.....	11,134	11,071	-63	1,833,573 90	2,062,796 03	229,222 13	18 69	22 82
British Columbia.....	14,348	14,481	133	2,443,152 70	2,791,031 33	347,878 63	19 28	23 55
Manitoba.....	12,498	12,188	-310	2,093,379 84	*2,002,573 38	-90,806 46	18 78	23 41
New Brunswick.....	11,818	11,843	25	1,606,402 93	1,732,670 49	126,287 56	15 27	17 69
Nova Scotia.....	14,080	13,838	-242	1,948,074 78	2,137,241 68	189,166 90	15 65	18 06
Ontario.....	57,692	56,156	-1,536	9,633,658 18	10,310,621 89	676,963 71	18 86	23 09
Prince Edward Island.....	1,904	1,888	-16	208,587 31	268,515 03	59,927 72	13 48	18 53
Quebec.....	47,045	47,153	108	7,048,885 34	8,535,836 81	1,486,477 47	17 20	22 54
Saskatchewan.....	13,074	12,755	-319	2,043,409 91	2,352,406 79	308,996 88	17 53	23 00
Northwest Territories.....	8.....	11.....	3.....	2,060 66	2,372 68	312 02	20 00	24 55
	183,601	181,384	-2,217	28,861,185 55	32,195,592 11	3,334,406 56	.....	.....

\*Dominion Government's contributions under the War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944, amounting to \$258,541.49 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1942-43 AND 1943-44

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1943	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1944	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1942-43	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1943-44	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							\$	\$
Alberta.....	239	242	3	40,968 59	47,914 22	6,945 63	19 76	24 15
British Columbia.....	334	323	-11	58,363 31	65,828 76	7,465 45	19 42	24 19
Manitoba.....	348	339	-9	59,752 81	*60,199 34	446 53	19 72	24 22
New Brunswick.....	722	710	-12	129,585 11	136,447 29	6,862 18	19 67	23 28
Nova Scotia.....	620	633	13	107,396 52	114,042 77	6,646 25	19 22	21 21
Ontario.....	1,502	1,449	-53	266,354 07	283,956 32	17,602 25	19 70	24 19
Prince Edward Island.....	116	111	-5	15,249 06	19,545 00	4,295 94	16 14	22 41
Quebec.....	2,173	2,250	77	379,129 29	452,061 25	72,931 96	19 61	24 37
Saskatchewan.....	320	317	-3	58,029 54	64,035 18	6,005 64	19 86	24 54
Northwest Territories.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	6,374	6,374	Nil	1,114,828 30	1,244,030 13	129,201 83	.....	.....

\*Dominion Government's contributions under the War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944, amounting to \$8,285.86 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.

*an*  
*Doc*  
Canada National Health & Welfare  
Dept. A.

(DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CANADA)

Report on the  
**Administration of Old Age Pensions**

AND

**Pensions For Blind Persons  
In Canada**

Under the Provisions of the  
**Old Age Pensions Act**

Chapter 156 Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

Order in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943

Order in Council P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944

1944/45

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1945

EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1945

*To His Excellency Major-General the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone,  
K.G., P.C., G.C.B., G.M.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., A.D.C., Governor General  
and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1945, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. L. ILSLEY,  
*Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1945.

The Honourable J. L. ILSLEY,  
Minister of Finance.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1945, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CLARK,  
*Deputy Minister of Finance.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1945.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. OLD AGE PENSIONS	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	5
2. Administration of Old Age Pensions.....	5
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act .....	6
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations .....	6
5. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions.....	6
6. Financial and Statistical Summary .....	9

B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS	
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	11
2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	11
3. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act .....	11
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations .....	11
5. Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons .....	12
6. Financial and Statistical Summary .....	13

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1944-1945

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces*

The Old Age Pensions Act was amended by Order in Council P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944 to increase the maximum income allowed old age and blind pensioners. In order to bring the amendment into operation it was necessary for the provinces to make supplementary agreements with the Dominion. Each province made a supplementary agreement with the Dominion during the fiscal year 1944-45. The effective date was the same for all provinces, namely, April 1, 1944.

### 2. *Administration*.

During the fiscal year 1944-45 the Province of Saskatchewan changed its scheme for the administration of old age pensions and pensions for blind persons. Since 1928, the year in which the payment of old age pensions commenced in Saskatchewan, the Minister in charge of the administration of pensions has been in pension authority. Under the new provincial scheme a board known as "The Social Welfare Board" is the pension authority. In addition to granting, altering and withdrawing pensions the Board is responsible for advising the Minister on all matters relating to the administration of old age pensions and pensions for blind persons.

Under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act no change may be made in a provincial scheme for the administration of pensions without the consent of the Governor in Council. The change in the Saskatchewan scheme was approved by Order in Council P.C. 2851 dated the 24th of April, 1945.

The schemes for the administration of pensions in the other provinces approved by the Dominion prior to April 1, 1944, continued in force during the fiscal year 1944-45. The following boards and commissions are responsible for the administration of old age pensions and pensions for blind persons in the nine provinces—

Alberta . . . . .	Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton. Chairman—J. F. Percival.
British Columbia . . . . .	Old Age Pensions Board, Vancouver. Chairman—James Hugh Creighton.
Manitoba . . . . .	Workmen's Compensation Board, Winnipeg. Commissioner of Old Age Pensions—G. L. Cousley.
New Brunswick . . . . .	The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton. Chairman—J. W. Niles.
Nova Scotia . . . . .	The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax. Chairman—H. S. Farquhar.
Ontario . . . . .	Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto. Chairman—C. H. Green.
Prince Edward Island . . . . .	The Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown. Chairman—Peter D. Trainor.
Quebec . . . . .	Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec. President—J. R. Forest.
Saskatchewan . . . . .	The Social Welfare Board, Regina. Chairman—J. S. White.

The Department of Finance, Ottawa, is responsible for the Dominion's part in the administration of old age pensions and for the granting and paying of old age pensions to persons residing in the Northwest Territories.

### *3. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act.*

During the fiscal year 1943-44 the Old Age Pensions Act was amended to increase the maximum pension from \$240 to \$300 a year. At that time the maximum income of \$365 a year allowed an old age pensioner by the Act was not altered. The amount of income other than pension which a pensioner might receive without any reduction in pension was, therefore, reduced from \$125 to \$65 a year. By Order in Council P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, passed under the authority of the War Measures Act the Old Age Pensions Act was amended to increase the maximum income (including pension) from \$365 to \$425 a year. Under the amended Act an old age pensioner may receive the same amount of income as formerly (\$125 a year) without any reduction in the amount of his pension.

Order in Council P.C. 3377 provides that the amount required to pay the Dominion's share of the increase in the cost of pensions shall be a charge upon the War Appropriation.

### *4. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations.*

Changes were made in a number of the Regulations dealing with residence in Canada and in the province. While there has been little objection to the requirement of sixteen years residence in Canada during the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of the pension the residence regulations have been criticized because some applicants who were absent from Canada for more than four years were required to reside in Canada for longer periods than others before becoming eligible to receive pensions. To correct this defect in the Regulations an amendment was made which allows the pension authority to grant pensions to applicants who have lodged in Canada for sixteen years after attaining the age of fifty years.

Under the Regulations dealing with residence in the province applicants, in some cases, have had to leave the province in which they were residing and return to the province in which they had lodged for at least 700 days within the five years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of the pension. To do away with the necessity of travelling from one province to another in order to qualify for pension the Regulations were amended so that an applicant is presumed to be residing in the province where he has the required residence although he is actually residing in another province at the date on which he applies for a pension.

The residence regulations were also amended to allow the pension authorities to disregard absence from Canada in cases where applicants were employed as fishermen or on ships provided such applicants during their absence from Canada maintained a home in Canada as defined by the Old Age Pensions Regulations.

The amendment to the Act increasing the maximum income allowed old age pensioners altered the Regulations authorizing the pension authority to exclude \$365 in calculating the income of an applicant for pension with a spouse not eligible to receive pension. The amount is increased to \$425. Similar changes were made in Regulations dealing with matters in connection with the transfer of property.

### *5. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions.*

During the fiscal year April 1, 1944 to March 31, 1945, the Dominion's contributions to the Provinces and payments to pensioners in the Northwest Territories amounted to \$39,503,027.55. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1945, was 187,512.

The following tables (Tables 1, 2 and 3) show the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1940-41 to 1944-45, the number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1935-36 to 1944-45 and the Dominion's payments for the same period.

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Year ended Mar. 31, 1941	Year ended Mar. 31, 1942	Year ended Mar. 31, 1943	Year ended Mar. 31, 1944	Year ended Mar. 31, 1945
Alberta.....	56.56	52.15	46.39	44.28	45.67
British Columbia.....	49.79	39.09	35.87	34.48	33.36
Manitoba.....	55.33	50.80	44.64	42.03	41.08
New Brunswick.....	61.83	56.09	56.28	56.40	58.42
Nova Scotia.....	51.62	49.26	46.93	44.64	43.85
Ontario.....	35.89	34.24	30.85	29.25	29.35
Prince Edward Island.....	33.12	32.53	31.73	31.47	31.40
Quebec.....	49.48	48.30	44.38	42.87	44.01
Saskatchewan.....	59.60	60.05	48.42	45.55	44.23

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1st in each year.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1935-6 TO 1944-5

	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1945-45
Alberta.....	8,086	9,100	9,725	10,175	10,677	10,746	10,952	11,134	11,071	11,418
British Columbia.....	10,011	10,824	11,563	12,503	13,386	13,942	14,484	14,344	14,481	15,344
Manitoba.....	10,862	11,559	11,800	12,128	12,564	12,727	12,701	12,498	12,188	12,324
New Brunswick.....	9,804	11,142	11,584	11,815	11,747	11,779	11,815	11,843	12,269	
Nova Scotia.....	13,044	13,456	13,827	14,221	14,502	14,454	14,285	14,680	13,838	14,032
Ontario.....	54,040	55,950	57,530	55,858	54,717	59,224	59,232	57,692	56,155	58,113
Prince Edward Island.....	1,659	1,768	1,814	1,891	2,007	1,987	1,932	1,904	1,888	1,884
Quebec.....	22,629	46,490	47,339	48,797	48,000	47,338	47,045	47,152	49,289	
Saskatchewan.....	10,708	11,430	11,775	12,227	12,597	13,111	13,211	13,074	12,755	12,827
Northwest Territories.....	7	8	9	7	7	8	8	8	11	12
	108,415	146,524	175,073	181,514	186,035	185,946	185,922	183,601	181,384	187,512

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1934-35 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons or fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 9).

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1935-36 TO 1944-45

	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,224,104 53	1,409,059 79	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48
British Columbia.....	1,672,830 60	1,823,267 82	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70
Manitoba.....	1,797,144 68	1,922,416 33	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16
New Brunswick.....		868,308 30	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39
Nova Scotia.....	1,661,101 81	1,764,915 17	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85
Ontario.....	8,677,034 05	9,146,837 58	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94
Prince Edward Island.....	148,007 47	161,527 62	167,330 39	179,121 07	193,970 13
Quebec.....		2,345,107 05	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34
Saskatchewan.....	1,582,604 89	1,706,190 29	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50
Northwest Territories.....	1,655 84	1,722 57	1,714 56	1,898 91	1,764 41
	16,764,483 87	21,149,351 52	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1935-36 TO 1944-45—*Concluded*

	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,778,022 53	1,797,083 27	1,833,573 90	2,062,796 03	2,401,386 15
British Columbia.....	2,331,331 44	2,403,312 55	2,443,152 70	2,791,031 33	3,236,033 65
Manitoba.....	2,106,858 53	2,087,719 03	2,093,379 84	2,002,573 38	2,879,947 97
New Brunswick.....	1,551,711 34	1,559,883 08	1,606,402 93	1,732,670 49	2,390,977 80
Nova Scotia.....	1,941,171 82	1,936,831 62	1,948,074 78	2,137,241 68	2,807,890 33
Ontario.....	9,814,403 80	9,772,690 43	9,633,658 18	10,310,621 89	12,291,117 43
Prince Edward Island.....	203,135 81	200,171 11	208,587 31	268,515 03	311,582 78
Quebec.....	7,199,832 61	6,762,038 15	7,048,885 34	8,535,362 81	10,386,114 68
Saskatchewan.....	1,973,786 81	2,009,282 60	2,043,409 91	2,352,406 79	2,794,902 96
Northwest Territories.....	1,678 06	1,895 68	2,060 66	2,372 68	3,073 80
	28,901,932 75	28,530,907 52	28,861,185 55	32,195,592 11	39,503,027 55

\* Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

Note.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1934-35 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 10).

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include amounts paid out by the provinces. In addition to their proportion of the amounts paid out for pensions the provinces pay the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of pensions for the country as a whole for the fiscal year 1944-45 including the cost of administration, may be estimated at approximately \$53,800,000. This estimate does not include the cost of supplemental allowances paid by certain provinces.

### 6. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions.

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1945, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1945, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1945, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1944.

TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1945

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective Mar. 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	11,418	15,344	12,324	12,269	14,032	58,113
Average monthly pension.....	\$24.16	\$24.41	\$24.48	\$22.13	\$22.50	\$24.13
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.40	1.65	1.68	2.66	2.29	1.47
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	3.06	4.94	4.10	4.55	5.23	4.99
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	45.67	33.36	41.08	58.42	43.85	29.35
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1945.....	\$509,000.49	\$824,857.82	\$646,799.14	\$606,717.10	\$709,880.71	\$3,170,788.39
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1945, included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$127,413.41	\$172,927.01	\$138,104.25	\$138,127.70	\$158,625.56	\$692,428.29
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1944—March 31, 1945.....	\$2,401,386.15	\$3,236,033.65	\$2,879,947.97	\$2,390,977.80	\$2,807,890.33	\$12,291,117.43
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1944 to March 31, 1945, included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$409,215.89	\$675,236.34	\$837,434.30†	\$544,151.36	\$623,597.58	\$2,498,092.84
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Act.....	\$21,322,573.92	\$29,409,021.66	\$27,926,447.35	\$14,014,230.70	\$21,363,006.22	\$130,057,850.20
Amounts charged to War Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Act.....	\$714,848.14	\$1,000,470.60	\$837,434.30	\$8583,702.29	\$675,856.30	\$3,348,651.63

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 10.

6. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions—Concluded*TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1945—*Concluded*

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928	Order-in-Council effective Jan. 25, 1929	
Number of pensioners.....	1,884	49,289	12,827	12	187,512
Average monthly pension.....	\$18.63	\$23.95	\$24.68	\$24.17	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	2.07	1.41	1.52	.10	.....
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	6.59	3.20	* 3.43	1.52	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	31.40	44.01	44.23	6.56	.....
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1945.....	\$79,033.02	\$2,635,855.19	\$696,033.06	\$939.69	\$9,988,913.61
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1945, included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$15,806.60	\$545,675.02	\$146,588.92	\$184.26	\$2,135,881.02
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1944—March 31, 1945.	\$311,582.78	\$10,386,114.68	\$2,794,902.96	\$3,073.80	\$39,503,027.55
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1944 to March 31, 1945, included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$62,316.54	\$2,156,425.47	\$583,085.60	\$578.14	\$8,480,134.06
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Act.....	\$2,244,929.50	\$66,058,847.62	\$26,330,741.96	\$27,786.73	\$338,755,444.86
Amounts charged to War Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Act.....	\$93,530.12	\$3,292,330.01	\$875,915.47	\$889.16	\$11,423,628.22

<sup>t</sup>Dominion Government's contributions under War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944 amounting to \$288,541.49 charged to 1944-45.

\*Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1944—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements with Provinces.*

The supplementary agreements made under the authority of Order in Council P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, apply to pensions in respect of blindness as well as to old age pensions. The effective date of the supplementary agreement in each province is April 1, 1944.

### *2. Administration of Pensions for Blind Persons.*

The changes in the scheme for the administration of pensions in Saskatchewan apply to pensions for blind persons as well as to old age pensions. The Social Welfare Board is responsible for the granting, altering and withdrawing of pensions in respect of blindness and also for advising the Minister on all matters relating to the administration of such pensions.

No changes were made in the schemes for the administration of pensions in respect of blindness in the other provinces. The boards and commissions shown in section A-2 on this report are responsible for the administration of pensions for blind persons.

The medical examinations of applicants for pensions in respect of blindness have been made by ophthalmologists employed by the Department of Pensions and National Health. Following changes in this Department the medical officers responsible for the supervision of medical examinations were attached to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The amount paid by the Dominion to ophthalmologists for medical examinations during the fiscal year 1944-45 amounted to \$3,680.00.

### *3. Amendments to the Act.*

When the Old Age Pension Act was amended in 1937 to provide for the payment of pensions to blind persons the maximum income allowed blind persons was more than the maximum income of persons over the age of seventy years. In the case of a single blind person the maximum income was \$440 a year and in the case of a married blind person, \$640 a year. As the maximum pension was \$240 a year it followed that the pension was reduced by any income received by a single blind person in excess of \$200 and by a married blind person in excess of \$400 a year.

When the maximum pension was increased in 1943 from \$240 to \$300 a year the maximum income was not increased. Consequently the amount of other income which blind pensioners might receive without causing any reduction in pension was less than it was when the pension was \$240 a year. In the case of a single blind pensioner the amount of allowable income was reduced from \$200 to \$140 a year and in the case of a married blind pensioner from \$400 to \$340 a year.

The amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act made by Order in Council P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, passed under the authority of the War Measures Act, restored the allowable income of blind pensioners to its former level. By increasing the maximum income of a single blind person to \$500 a year and of a married blind person to \$700 a year the allowable income was increased to \$200 a year for a single blind person and \$400 a year for a married blind person. These amendments to the Act came into force on April 1, 1944, after being approved by all provinces.

Under the provisions of Order in Council P.C. 3377 the amount required to pay the Dominion's share of the increase in the cost of pensions in respect of blindness is chargeable to the War Appropriation.

### *4. Amendments to the Regulations.*

The amendments to the regulations dealing with residence in Canada and in the province which are explained in section A-4 of this report apply to pensions

in respect of blindness as well as to old age pensions. As pensions are payable to blind persons at the age of forty years the pension authority may grant pensions to blind applicants who have lodged in Canada for sixteen years after attaining the age of twenty years.

##### 5. Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons.

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of pensions in respect of blindness for the fiscal year April 1, 1944 to March 31, 1945 amounted to \$1,471,977.97. The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1945, was 6,663.

The following tables (Tables 5 and 6) show the number of persons receiving pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act at the end of each fiscal year from 1937-38 to 1944-45 and the Dominion's contributions on account of pensions for blind persons during the same period.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1944-45

Province	Number of Pensioners							
	1937-1938	1938-1939	1939-1940	1940-1941	1941-1942	1942-1943	1943-1944	1944-1945
Alberta.....	146	183	197	215	239	242	247	
British Columbia.....	76	232	290	301	327	334	323	336
Manitoba.....	98	206	268	307	327	348	339	348
New Brunswick.....	114	510	652	704	740	722	710	736
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	573	610	620	620	633	640
Ontario.....	633	1,154	1,333	1,448	1,506	1,502	1,449	1,488
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	115	116	115	116	111	110
Quebec.....	710	1,453	1,741	1,947	2,079	2,173	2,250	2,425
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	249	283	314	320	317	333
	1,946	4,512	5,404	5,913	6,243	6,374	6,374	6,663

TABLE 6.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1944-45

Province	Dominion's Contributions							
	1937-1938		1938-1939		1939-1940		1940-1941	
	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Alberta.....	19,289	81	30,064	83	33,607	58	36,780	14
British Colum- bia.....	3,025	41	37,323	55	46,626	94	50,564	46
Manitoba.....	6,412	39	33,506	77	42,471	01	51,033	74
New Brunswick.....	8,993	93	86,516	77	108,624	41	121,246	70
Nova Scotia.....	11,984	87	74,418	04	91,261	80	102,375	34
Ontario.....	38,535	29	109,162	73	125,446	58	124,975	03
Prince Edward Island.....	660	12	10,518	23	13,207	31	14,337	93
Quebec.....	57,028	48	263,451	54	294,276	96	336,873	46
Saskatchewan.....	1,777	76	36,166	98	43,943	25	50,752	69
	128,418	25	760,354	42	895,923	09	1,009,766	63
							1,080,888	63
							1,114,828	30
							1,244,030	13
								1,471,977
								97

The figures shown in Table 6 do not include the amounts paid out by the provinces which pay twenty-five per cent of the cost of Pensions for Blind Persons and the cost of provincial administration. The total cost of Pensions for Blind Persons for the country as a whole for the fiscal year April 1, 1944 to March 31, 1945, including the cost of administration, may be estimated at approximately \$2,000,000. This estimate does not include the cost of supplemental allowances paid by certain provinces.

6. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons.*

The following table (Table 7) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1944-45; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1945, for the fiscal year 1944-45, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1945.—

TABLE 7.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1945

	Alberta Act effective March 7, 1938	British Columbia Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Manitoba Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	New Brunswick Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Nova Scotia Act effective Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners .....	247	336	348	736	640
Average monthly pension .....	24.53	24.75	24.69	24.54	24.23
*Percentage of pensioners to total population .....	.030	.036	.048	.159	.105
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1945 .....	\$13,741.77	\$18,585.00	\$19,417.13	\$40,738.84	\$34,902.17
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1945, and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period .....	\$2,800.00	\$3,841.11	\$3,991.32	\$8,351.80	\$7,370.51
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1944—March 31, 1945 .....	\$54,289.17	\$73,302.49	\$85,129.83	\$161,588.00	\$140,039.16
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1944—March 31, 1945 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period .....	\$11,010.59	\$14,917.31	\$24,101.73†	\$33,018.26	\$29,190.18
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act .....	\$262,914.34	\$390,198.58	\$394,733.93	\$881,294.37	\$747,488.59
Amounts charged to War Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act .....	\$16,026.34	\$22,767.12	\$24,101.73	\$42,325.00	\$34,005.50

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 14.

6. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons.*—Concluded

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1945—Concluded

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Totals
	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Nov. 15, 1937	
Number of pensioners.....	1,488	110	2,425	333	6,663
Average monthly pension.....	24.73	22.40	24.74	24.94	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.038	.121	.069	.039	.....
Dominion Government's contribution for quarter ended March 31, 1945.....	\$84,923 41	\$5,553 04	\$137,931 98	\$18,440 34	\$374,233 68
Amounts charged to War Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1945 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$18,188 83	\$1,110 61	\$28,280 34	\$3,870 56	\$77,805 08
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1944—March 31, 1945.....	\$331,210 30	\$22,011 81	\$530,168 53	\$74,238 68	\$1,471,977 97
Amounts charged to War Appropriation April 1, 1944—March 31, 1945 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$67,565 82	\$4,402 36	\$108,371 61	\$15,108 94	\$307,686 80
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$1,857,646 99	\$109,601 41	\$2,678,515 04	\$383,794 47	\$7,706,187 72
Amounts charged to War Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to O.A.P. Act.....	\$92,097 91	\$6,653 58	\$164,788 80	\$22,982 03	\$426,347 01

<sup>†</sup>Dominion Government's contributions under War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944, amounting to \$8,285.86 charged to 1944-45.

\*Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1944—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 8—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1945

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age				
				\$	cts.			
Alberta.....	11,418	247	11,665	21,322,573	92	282,914 34		
British Columbia.....	15,344	336	15,680	29,409,021	66	390,198 58		
Manitoba.....	12,324	348	12,672	27,926,447	35	394,733 93		
New Brunswick.....	12,269	736	13,005	14,014,230	70	881,294 37		
Nova Scotia.....	14,032	640	14,672	21,363,006	22	747,488 59		
Ontario.....	58,113	1,488	59,601	130,057,859	20	1,857,646 99		
Prince Edward Island.....	1,884	110	1,994	2,244,929	50	109,601 41		
Quebec.....	49,289	2,425	51,714	66,058,847	62	2,678,515 04		
Saskatchewan.....	12,827	333	13,160	26,330,741	96	383,794 47		
Northwest Territories.....	12.....	.....	12	27,786	73	.....		
	187,512	6,663	194,175	338,755,444	86	7,706,187 72		
						346,461,632 58		

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1943-44 AND 1944-45

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1944	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1945	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1943-44	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1944-45	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							March	March
							31, 1944	31, 1945
Alberta.....	11,071	11,418	347	2,062,796 03	2,401,386 15	338,590 12	22 82	24 16
British Columbia.....	14,481	15,344	863	2,791,031 33	3,236,063 65	445,002 32	23 55	24 41
Manitoba.....	12,188	12,324	136	*2,002,573 38	*2,879,947 97	877,374 59	23 41	24 48
New Brunswick.....	11,843	12,269	426	1,732,670 49	2,390,977 80	658,307 31	17 69	22 13
Nova Scotia.....	13,838	14,032	194	2,137,241 68	2,807,890 33	670,648 65	18 06	22 50
Ontario.....	56,156	58,113	1,957	10,310,621 89	12,291,117 43	1,980,495 54	23 09	24 13
Prince Edward Island.....	1,888	1,884	-4	268,515 03	311,582 78	43,067 75	18 53	18 63
Quebec.....	47,153	49,289	2,136	8,535,362 81	10,386,114 68	1,850,751 87	22 54	23 95
Saskatchewan.....	12,755	12,827	72	2,352,406 79	2,794,902 96	442,496 17	23 00	24 68
Northwest Territories.....	11.....	12	1	2,372 68	3,073 80	701 12	24 44	24 17
	181,384	187,512	6,128	32,195,502 11	39,503,027 55	7,307,435 44	.....	.....

\*Dominion Government's contribution under the War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944 amounting to \$288,541.49 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1943-44 AND 1944-45

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1944	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1945	Net increase or decrease in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1943-44	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1944-45	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							March	March
							31, 1944	31, 1945
Alberta.....	242	247	5	47,914 22	54,289 17	6,374 95	24 15	24 53
British Columbia.....	323	336	13	65,828 76	73,302 49	7,473 73	24 19	24 75
Manitoba.....	339	348	9	*60,199 34	*85,129 83	24,930 49	24 22	24 69
New Brunswick.....	710	736	26	136,447 29	161,588 00	25,140 71	23 28	24 54
Nova Scotia.....	633	640	7	114,042 77	140,039 16	25,995 39	21 21	24 23
Ontario.....	1,449	1,488	39	283,956 32	331,210 30	47,263 98	24 19	24 73
Prince Edward Island.....	111	110	-1	19,545 00	22,011 81	2,406 81	22 41	22 40
Quebec.....	2,250	2,425	175	452,061 25	530,168 53	78,107 28	24 37	24 74
Saskatchewan.....	317	333	16	64,035 18	74,238 68	10,203 50	24 54	24 94
	6,374	6,663	289	1,244,030 13	1,471,977 97	227,947 84	.....	.....

\*Dominion Government's contributions under the War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944, amounting to \$8,285.86 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.



DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, CANADA

Report on the

# Administration of Old Age Pensions

AND

## Pensions For Blind Persons In Canada

Under the Provisions of the

### Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156 Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

Order in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943

Order in Council P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944

1945/46

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1946

EDMOND CLOUTIER  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1946



*To His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Honourable Viscount Alexander  
Tunis, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., LL.D., A.D.C., Governor  
General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1946, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

BROOKE CLAXTON,  
*Minister of National Health and Welfare*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1946.

The Honourable BROOKE CLAXTON,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1946, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,  
*Deputy Minister of Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1946.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	
2. Administration—Dominion.....	
3. Administration—Provincial.....	
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	
6. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions.....	
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	
2. Administration—Dominion.....	
3. Administration—Provincial.....	
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons.....	
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons.....	
6. Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1945-1946

---

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces*

There were no changes during the fiscal year 1945-46 in the agreements made by the Dominion with the provinces prior to April 1, 1945, including the supplementary agreements bringing into operation the provisions of Orders in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944 made under the authority of the War Measures Act. On the expiration of the War Measures Act on December 31, 1945 the Orders in Council were continued in force under The National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945. From January 1, 1946, the Dominion's expenditure under the supplementary agreements was charged to the War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation.

### 2. *Administration—Dominion*

Originally the Department of Labour was responsible for the Dominion administration of the Old Age Pensions Act. As from April 1, 1935 the administration was transferred to the Department of Finance. Following the establishment of the Department of National Health and Welfare in 1941 the administration of the Old Age Pensions Act was transferred from the Department of Finance to that Department as from September 1, 1945. The transfer was authorized by Order in Council P.C. 5942 dated September 7, 1945.

### 3. *Administration—Provincial*

During the fiscal year 1945-46 the Province of Manitoba adopted a new scheme for the administration of old age pensions and pensions for blind persons. The Workmen's Compensation Board had been pension authority from 1928 when Manitoba commenced the payment of old age pensions. The new scheme set up a separate board consisting of three members to be known as "The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board" to administer the Old Age Pensions Act in Manitoba. The Board is responsible to the Minister of Health and Public Welfare. The new scheme for the administration of pensions in Manitoba was approved by Dominion Order in Council P.C. 4452 dated July 10, 1945.

The schemes for the administration of pensions in the other provinces approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1945, continued in force during the fiscal year 1945-46. The provincial ministers and the provincial boards and commissions responsible for the administration of old age pensions and pensions for blind persons at the close of the fiscal year 1945-46 were as follows:

Alberta—Honourable W. W. Cross, M.D.,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton,  
Reginald Wilding—Chairman.

British Columbia—Honourable George S. Pearson,  
Provincial Secretary.

Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver,  
J. H. Creighton—Chairman.

Manitoba—Honourable Ivan Schultz,  
Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg,  
L. D. McNeill—Chairman.

New Brunswick—Honourable F. A. McGrand, M.D.,  
Minister of Health and Social Services.

The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton,  
J. W. Niles—Chairman.

Nova Scotia—Honourable F. R. Davis, M.D.,  
Minister of Public Health and Welfare.

The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax,  
H. S. Farquhar—Chairman.

Ontario—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto,  
C. H. Green—Chairman.

Prince Edward Island—Honourable William Hughes,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown,  
Peter D. Trainor—Chairman.

Quebec—Honourable Antonio Barrette,  
Minister of Labour.

Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec,  
J. R. Forest—President.

Saskatchewan—Honourable O. W. Valleau,  
Minister of Social Welfare.

Social Welfare Board, Regina,  
J. S. White—Chairman.

The Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, is responsible  
for the granting and paying of old age pensions in the Northwest Territories.

#### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act*

There were no amendments to the Act during the fiscal year 1945-46.  
Orders in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May  
29, 1944 made under the authority of the War Measures Act were continued

1 force under the provisions of The National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945. These Orders in Council authorized an increase of \$60 a year in the maximum pension and in the maximum yearly income.

#### *. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations*

There were no amendments to the Regulations during the fiscal year 1945-46.

#### *. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions*

During the fiscal year April 1, 1945 to March 31, 1946, the Dominion's contributions to the provinces and payments to pensioners in the Northwest Territories amounted to \$41,291,227.09. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1946, was 196,941.

The following tables (Tables 1, 2 and 3) show the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age and over at the end of the fiscal years 1941-42 to 1945-46, the number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1936-37 to 1945-46 and the Dominion's payments for the same period.

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

Province	Year ended Mar. 31, 1942	Year ended Mar. 31, 1943	Year ended Mar. 31, 1944	Year ended Mar. 31, 1945	Year ended Mar. 31, 1946
Alberta.....	52.15	46.39	44.28	45.67	43.21
British Columbia.....	39.09	35.87	34.48	33.36	35.40
Manitoba.....	50.80	44.64	42.03	41.08	43.27
New Brunswick.....	56.09	56.28	56.40	58.42	60.30
Nova Scotia.....	49.26	46.93	44.64	43.85	46.16
Ontario.....	34.24	30.85	29.25	29.35	30.26
Prince Edward Island.....	32.53	31.73	31.47	31.40	33.00
Quebec.....	48.30	44.38	42.87	44.01	44.84
Saskatchewan.....	60.05	48.42	45.55	44.23	44.66

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age and over as at June 1st in each year.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1936-7 TO 1945-6

	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
Alberta .....	9,100	9,726	10,175	10,677	10,746	10,952	11,134	11,071	11,418	12,098
British Columbia.....	10,824	11,563	12,504	13,386	13,942	14,464	14,348	14,481	15,344	16,637
Manitoba.....	11,559	11,800	12,128	12,560	12,727	12,701	12,498	12,188	12,324	12,981
New Brunswick.....	9,803	11,142	11,564	11,815	11,747	11,779	11,818	11,843	12,269	12,663
Nova Scotia.....	13,456	13,827	14,221	14,502	14,454	14,285	14,080	13,838	14,032	14,771
Ontario.....	55,950	57,530	58,858	59,717	59,224	59,232	57,692	56,156	58,113	60,831
Prince Edward Island.....	1,768	1,811	1,891	2,007	1,987	1,952	1,904	1,888	1,884	1,980
Quebec.....	22,620	46,490	47,039	48,797	48,000	47,333	47,045	47,153	49,289	51,567
Saskatchewan.....	11,436	11,775	12,227	12,567	13,111	13,211	13,074	12,755	12,827	13,398
Northwest Territories.....	8	9	7	7	8	8	8	11	12	15
	146,524	175,673	181,514	186,035	185,946	185,922	183,601	181,384	187,512	196,941

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1935-36 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 9).

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1936-37 TO 1945-46

	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	1,409,059 79	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48	1,778,022
British Columbia.....	1,823,267 82	1,955,957 01	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	2,331,331
Manitoba.....	1,922,415 33	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	2,106,858
New Brunswick.....	868,308 30	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	1,551,711
Nova Scotia.....	1,764,915 17	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	1,941,171
Ontario.....	9,146,837 58	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	9,814,403
Prince Edward Island.....	161,527 62	167,330 39	179,121 07	193,970 13	203,135
Quebec.....	2,345,107 05	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34	7,199,332
Saskatchewan.....	1,706,190 29	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	1,973,786
Northwest Territories.....	1,722 57	1,714 56	1,898 91	1,764 41	1,678
	21,149,351 52	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90	28,901,932
	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	1,797,083 27	1,833,573 90	2,062,796 03	2,401,386 15	2,526,214
British Columbia.....	2,403,312 55	2,443,152 70	2,791,031 33	3,236,033 65	3,485,885
Manitoba.....	2,087,719 03	2,093,379 84	2,002,573 38	2,879,947 97	2,684,083
New Brunswick.....	1,559,883 08	1,606,402 93	1,732,670 49	2,390,977 80	2,498,871
Nova Scotia.....	1,936,831 62	1,948,074 78	2,137,241 68	2,807,890 33	2,913,972
Ontario.....	9,772,690 43	9,633,658 18	10,310,621 89	12,291,117 43	13,129,815
Prince Edward Island.....	200,171 11	208,587 31	268,515 03	311,582 78	322,440
Quebec.....	6,762,038 15	7,048,885 34	8,535,362 81	10,386,114 68	10,823,845
Saskatchewan.....	2,009,282 60	2,043,409 91	2,352,406 79	2,794,902 96	2,903,019
Northwest Territories.....	1,895 68	2,060 66	2,372 68	3,073 80	3,579
	28,530,907 52	28,861,185 55	32,195,592 11	39,503,027 55	41,291,277

\* Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1935-36 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 10).

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include the provinces' share of 25 per cent of the net sum paid out for old age pensions or the cost of supplement allowances provided by certain provinces.

### 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1946, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1946, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1946, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1945.

TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1946

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	Act effective July 1, 1936	Act effective Mar. 1, 1934	Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	12,098	16,637	12,981	12,663	14,771	60,831
Average monthly pension.....	\$24.12	\$24.34	\$24.54	\$22.40	\$22.62	\$24.48
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.46	1.75	1.76	2.71	2.38	1.52
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	3.39	4.95	4.08	4.49	5.15	5.02
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	43.21	35.40	43.27	60.30	46.16	30.26
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1946	\$644,293.57	\$896,605.86	\$680,611.38	\$635,263.10	\$744,173.62	\$3,353,750.88
Amounts charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$135,169.18	\$188,444.44	\$144,384.66	\$143,617.85	\$167,128.57	\$697,642.68
\$2,526,214.64	\$3,435,885.07	\$2,684,063.31	\$2,498,871.32	\$2,913,972.32	\$13,129,815.81	
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation April 1, 1945–March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period	\$528,774.42	\$727,361.69	\$563,509.39	\$567,630.65	\$652,065.04	\$2,845,710.69
\$23,848,788.56	\$32,894,906.73	\$30,610,530.66	\$16,513,102.02	\$24,276,978.54	\$143,187,675.01	
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of O.A.P. Act.....	\$1,243,622.56	\$1,727,832.29	\$1,400,943.69	\$1,151,332.94	\$1,327,921.34	\$6,194,362.52
\$1,108,453.38	\$1,539,387.85	\$1,256,559.03	\$1,007,715.09	\$1,160,792.77	\$5,496,719.84	
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation	\$135,169.18	\$188,444.44	\$144,384.66	\$143,617.85	\$167,128.57	\$697,642.68

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 10.

7. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions—Concluded*

TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1946—*Concluded*

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	Act effective July 1, 1933	Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	Act effective May 1, 1928	Order in Council effective Jan. 25, 1929	
Number of pensioners.....	1,980	51,567	13,398	15	196,941
Average monthly pension.....	\$18.99	\$23.91	\$24.55	\$24.33	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	2.15	1.45	1.59	1.12	.....
*Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	6.52	3.23	3.55	1.52	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	33.00	44.84	44.66	8.20	.....
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1946.....	\$83,828.06	\$2,779,145.13	\$738,989.55	\$1,114.99	\$10,557,776.14
Amounts charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$16,765.61	\$571,954.48	\$153,643.42	\$215.31	\$2,218,966.20
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1945–March 31, 1946.....	\$322,440.55	\$10,823,345.20	\$2,903,019.80	\$3,579.07	\$41,291,227.09
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation April 1, 1945–March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$64,488.11	\$2,235,541.17	\$602,750.76	\$684.49	\$8,788,516.41
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of O.A.P. Act.....	\$2,567,370.05	\$76,882,192.82	\$29,238,761.76	\$31,365.80	\$380,046,671.95
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of O.A.P. Act.....	\$158,018.23	\$5,527,871.18	\$1,478,666.23	\$1,573.65	\$20,212,144.63
Charged to War Appropriation.....	\$141,252.62	\$4,055,916.70	\$1,325,922.81	\$1,358.34	\$17,993,178.43
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation.....	\$16,765.61	\$371,954.48	\$153,643.42	\$215.31	\$2,218,966.20

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1945—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements with Provinces*

There were no changes during the fiscal year 1945-46 in the agreements made by the Dominion with the Provinces respecting pensions for blind persons. The supplementary agreements entered into by the Dominion with the Provinces under the provisions of Orders in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944 made under the authority of the War Measures Act continued in force under the authority of The National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945. As from January 1, 1946, payments made by the Dominion to the provinces under such agreements were charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation.

### *2. Administration—Dominion*

The administration of pensions for blind persons was transferred from the Department of Finance to the Department of National Health and Welfare as from September 1, 1945, by Order in Council P.C. 5942 dated September 7, 1945. Subsequent to the transfer of the administration a division called the "Blindness Control Division" was established in the Health Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare. The Chief of the Blindness Control Division has, among other duties, responsibility for certifying whether or not each applicant for a pension in respect of blindness is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations. His decisions are made on information obtained from medical examinations by ophthalmologists or from other reliable evidence available to him. During the fiscal year 1945-46 the Dominion paid \$4,255 on account of medical examinations in connection with pensions for blind persons.

### *3. Administration—Provincial*

The boards and commissions appointed by the provincial governments to administer old age pensions also administer pensions for blind persons. The provincial pension authorities are shown in section 3 of part A of this report.

Manitoba was the only province which changed its scheme for the administration of pensions for blind persons during the fiscal year 1945-46. Under the new scheme The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board was appointed pension authority in place of the Workmen's Compensation Board.

The Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, is responsible for the granting and paying of pensions for blind persons in the Northwest Territories.

### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Act during the fiscal year 1945-46. Orders in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944 made under the authority of the War Measures Act which increased the maximum pension and maximum income were, however, continued in force under the authority of The National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945.

### *5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Regulations during the fiscal year 1945-46.

### 6. Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of pensions in respect of blindness for the fiscal year April 1, 1945 to March 31, 1946, amounted to \$1,526,747.01. The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1946, was 6,945.

The following tables (Tables 5 and 6) show the number of persons receiving pensions for the blind under the Old Age Pensions Act at the end of each fiscal year from 1937-38 to 1945-46 and the Dominion's contributions on account of pensions for blind persons during the same period.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1945-46

Province	Number of Pensioners								
	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
Alberta.....		146	183	197	215	239	242	247	269
British Columbia.....	76	232	290	301	327	334	323	336	340
Manitoba.....	98	206	268	307	327	348	339	348	365
New Brunswick.....	114	510	652	704	740	722	710	736	737
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	573	610	620	620	633	640	664
Ontario.....	683	1,154	1,333	1,448	1,506	1,502	1,449	1,488	1,543
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	115	116	115	116	111	110	119
Quebec.....	710	1,453	1,741	1,947	2,079	2,173	2,250	2,425	2,568
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	249	283	314	320	317	333	340
	1,946	4,512	5,404	5,913	6,243	6,374	6,374	6,663	6,945

TABLE 6.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1945-46

Province	Dominion's Contributions								
	1937-1938	1938-1939	1939-1940	1940-1941	1941-1942	1942-1943	1943-1944	1944-1945	1945-1946
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	19,288 81	30,064 83	33,607 58	36,780 14	40,968 59	47,914 22	54,289 17	57,550 39	
British Columbia.....	3,025 41	37,323 55	46,626 94	50,564 46	55,163 66	58,363 31	65,828 76	73,302 49	75,441 39
Manitoba.....	6,412 39	33,506 77	42,471 01	51,033 74	56,228 04	59,752 81	60,199 34	85,129 83	79,472 92
New Brunswick.....	8,993 93	86,516 77	108,624 41	121,246 70	128,292 16	129,555 11	136,447 29	161,588 00	161,978 47
Nova Scotia.....	11,984 87	74,418 04	91,261 80	102,375 34	105,970 09	107,396 52	114,042 77	140,039 16	142,671 86
Ontario.....	38,535 29	199,162 73	225,446 58	248,975 03	264,006 67	266,354 07	283,956 32	331,210 30	341,573 54
Prince Edward Island.....	660 12	10,518 23	13,207 31	14,337 93	14,071 95	15,249 06	19,545 00	22,011 81	22,794 94
Quebec.....	57,028 45	263,451 54	294,276 96	336,873 46	365,525 53	379,129 29	452,061 25	530,168 53	568,427 51
Saskatchewan.....	1,777 76	36,166 98	43,943 25	50,752 69	54,850 39	58,029 54	64,035 18	74,238 68	76,835 99
	128,418 25	760,354 42	895,923 09	1,009,766 93	1,080,888 63	1,114,828 30	1,244,030 13	1,471,977 97	1,526,747 01

The figures shown in Table 6 do not include the provinces' share amounting to 25 per cent of the net sum paid out for pensions in respect of blindness or the cost of supplemental allowances provided by certain provinces.

*7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons*

The following table (Table 7) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1945-46; also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1946, for the fiscal year 1945-46, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1946.—

TABLE 7.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1946

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia
	Act effective Mar. 7, 1938	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	269	340	365	737	864
Average monthly pension .....	24.51	24.59	24.84	24.65	24.19
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.033	.036	.050	.157	.107
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1946 .....	\$14,753.08	\$18,725.37	\$20,792.29	\$40,147.34	\$36,026.04
Amounts charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$3,017.21	\$3,846.04	\$4,244.21	\$8,300.03	\$7,659.40
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1945-March 31, 1946 .....	\$57,550.39	\$75,441.39	\$79,472.92	\$161,978.47	\$142,671.86
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation April 1, 1945-March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$11,732.69	\$15,465.63	\$16,446.17	\$33,334.40	\$30,308.76
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the O.A.P. Act .....	\$320,464.73	\$465,639.97	\$474,206.85	\$1,043,272.84	\$890,160.45
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the O.A.P. Act .....	\$28,358.03	\$38,232.75	\$40,547.90	\$75,650.40	\$14,214.26
Charged to War Appropriation .....	\$25,340.82	\$34,386.71	\$36,303.69	\$67,359.37	\$56,044.86
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation.....	\$3,017.21	\$3,846.04	\$4,244.21	\$8,300.03	\$7,659.40

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 14.

7. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons—Concluded*

TABLE 7.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1946—Concluded

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Totals
	Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	Act effective Oct. 1, 1937	Act effective Nov. 15, 1937	
Number of pensioners.....	1,543	119	2,568	340	6,945
Average monthly pension.....	24.72	22.33	24.73	24.74	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.039	.129	.072	.040	.....
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1946.....	\$87,300.45	\$5,908.91	\$145,007.83	\$19,416.76	\$388,078.07
Amounts charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation for quarter ended March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$18,122.10	\$1,181.78	\$29,458.58	\$3,949.64	\$79,788.99
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1945–March 31, 1946.....	\$341,573.54	\$22,794.94	\$568,427.51	\$76,835.99	\$1,526,747.01
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation April 1, 1945–March 31, 1946 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	\$70,851.99	\$1,558.98	\$115,998.79	\$15,668.27	\$314,365.68
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the O.A.P. Act.....	\$2,199,220.53	\$132,396.35	\$3,246,942.55	\$460,630.46	\$9,232,934.73
Amounts charged to War Appropriation and War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the O.A.P. Act.....	\$162,949.90	\$11,212.56	\$280,787.59	\$38,650.30	\$740,712.69
Charged to War Appropriation.....	\$144,827.80	\$10,030.78	\$251,329.01	\$34,700.66	\$660,923.70
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation.....	\$18,122.10	\$1,181.78	\$29,458.58	\$3,949.64	\$79,788.99

\* Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1945—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 8.—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1946

Province	Number of Pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age	Blind			
\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.			
Alberta.....	12,098	269	12,367	23,848,788 56	320,464 73	24,169,253 29		
British Columbia.....	16,637	340	16,977	32,894,906 73	465,639 97	33,360,546 70		
Manitoba.....	12,981	365	13,346	30,610,530 66	474,206 85	31,084,737 51		
New Brunswick.....	12,663	737	13,400	16,513,102 02	1,043,272 84	17,556,374 86		
Nova Scotia.....	14,771	664	15,435	24,276,978 54	890,160 45	25,167,18 99		
Ontario.....	60,831	1,543	62,374	143,187,675 01	2,199,220 53	145,386,895 54		
Prince Edward Island.....	1,980	119	2,099	2,567,370 05	132,396 35	2,699,766 40		
Quebec.....	51,567	2,568	54,135	76,882,192 82	3,246,942 55	80,129,135 37		
Saskatchewan.....	13,398	340	13,738	29,233,761 76	460,630 46	29,694,392 22		
Northwest Territories.....	15	.....	15	31,365 80	.....	31,365 80		
	196,941	6,945	203,886	380,046,671 95	9,232,934 73	389,279,606 68		

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1944-45-1945-46

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1945	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1946	Net increase in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1944-45	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1945-46	Net increase or decrease in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							March 31, 1945	March 31, 1946
Alberta.....	11,418	12,098	680	2,401,386 15	2,526,214 64	124,828 49	24 16	24 12
British Columbia.....	15,344	16,637	1,293	3,236,033 65	3,485,885 07	249,851 42	24 41	24 34
Manitoba.....	12,324	12,981	657	2,879,947 97	2,684,083 31	-195,864 66	24 48	24 54
New Brunswick.....	12,289	12,663	394	2,390,977 80	2,498,871 32	107,893 52	22 13	22 40
Nova Scotia.....	14,032	14,771	739	2,807,890 33	2,913,972 32	106,081 99	22 50	22 62
Ontario.....	58,113	60,831	2,718	12,291,117 43	13,129,815 81	838,698 38	24 13	24 48
Prince Edward Island.....	1,884	1,980	96	311,582 78	322,440 55	10,857 77	18 63	18 99
Quebec.....	49,289	51,567	2,278	10,386,114 68	10,823,345 20	437,230 52	23 95	23 91
Saskatchewan.....	12,827	13,398	371	2,704,002 96	2,903,019 80	109,116 94	24 48	24 55
Northwest Territories.....	12	15	3	3,073 80	3,579 07	505 27	24 17	24 33
	187,512	196,941	9,429	39,503,027 55	41,291,227 09	1,788,199 54	.....	.....

\* Dominion Government's contributions charged to War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944, amounting to \$288,641.49 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1944-45 AND 1945-46

Province	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1945	Number of Pensioners as at March 31, 1946	Net increase in number of Pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1944-45	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1945-46	Net increase or decrease in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average Monthly Pension	
							March 31, 1945	March 31, 1946
Alberta.....	247	269	22	54,289 17	57,550 39	3,261 22	24 53	24 51
British Columbia.....	336	340	4	73,302 49	75,441 39	2,138 90	24 75	24 59
Manitoba.....	348	365	17	*85,129 83	79,472 92	-5,656 91	24 69	24 84
New Brunswick.....	736	737	1	161,588 00	161,978 47	390 47	24 54	24 65
Nova Scotia.....	640	664	24	140,039 16	142,671 86	2,632 70	24 23	24 19
Ontario.....	1,488	1,543	55	331,210 30	341,573 54	10,333 24	24 73	24 72
Prince Edward Island.....	110	119	9	22,011 81	22,794 94	783 13	22 40	22 33
Quebec.....	2,425	2,568	143	530,168 53	568,427 51	38,258 98	24 74	24 73
Saskatchewan.....	333	340	7	74,238 68	76,835 99	2,597 31	24 94	24 74
Northwest Territories.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	6,663	6,945	282	1,471,977 97	1,526,747 01	54,769 04	.....	.....

\* Dominion Government's contributions charged to War Appropriation for the period September 1, 1943—March 31, 1944, amounting to \$8,285.86 charged to fiscal year 1944-45.



DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, CANADA

Report on the  
Administration of Old Age Pensions  
AND  
Pensions For Blind Persons  
In Canada

Under the Provisions of the

Old Age Pensions Act

Chapter 156 Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

Order in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943

Order in Council P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1947

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.  
KING'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY  
1947



*To His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of  
Tunis, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., LL.D., A.D.C., Governor  
General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1947, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PAUL MARTIN,  
*Minister of National Health and Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1947.

The Honourable PAUL MARTIN,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

SIR, — I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1947, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,  
*Deputy Minister of Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1947.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

	A. OLD AGE PENSIONS	PAGE
1.	Agreements with Provinces.....	5
2.	Administration —Dominion.....	5
3.	Administration—Provincial.....	5
4.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	6
5.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	7
6.	Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions.....	7
7.	Financial and Statistical Summary.....	10

	B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS	
1.	Agreements with Provinces.....	12
2.	Administration—Dominion.....	12
3.	Administration—Provincial.....	12
4.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons.....	12
5.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons.....	12
6.	Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	13
7.	Financial and Statistical Summary.....	15

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1946-1947

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces*

The agreements made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces under subsection 1 of section 3 of the Old Age Pensions Act were not altered during the fiscal year 1946-47.

In addition to the agreements made under subsection 1 of section 3 of the Act there were two supplementary agreements in operation with each of the nine provinces made under Orders in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944. These Orders in Council made under the authority of the War Measures Act, increased by \$60 a year the maximum pension and the maximum income allowed by the Act in the case of any province entering into supplementary agreements with the Governor in Council. The Orders in Council were continued in force under Order in Council P.C. 7414, dated December 28, 1945 made under the authority of the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945 and were still in force as at March 31, 1947.

The additional benefits provided by the Orders in Council were extended to the Northwest Territories by Orders in Council P.C. 8341 dated October 28, 1943 and P.C. 6500 dated August 18, 1944. These two Orders in Council were also continued in force during the fiscal year 1946-47 under Order in Council P.C. 7414 dated December 28, 1945 made under the authority of the National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945.

### 2. *Administration—Dominion*

Since the transfer of the Dominion administration of old age pensions and pensions for blind persons as from September 1, 1945, from the Department of Finance to the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Old Age Pensions Division in the Welfare Branch of the latter Department has been responsible for the examination and inspection of provincial records, the payment of the Dominion's share of the net cost of pensions and other matters in connection with the administration. The Division is also responsible for the granting and paying of old age pensions in the Northwest Territories.

### 3. *Administration—Provincial*

There were no changes made in the provincial schemes for the administration of pensions approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1946. The provincial ministers and the provincial boards and commissions responsible for the administration of both old age pensions and pensions for blind persons at the close of the fiscal year 1946-47 were as follows:—

Alberta—Honourable W. W. Cross, M.D.,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton,  
Reginald Wilding—Chairman.

British Columbia—Honourable George S. Pearson,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.

Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver,  
J. H. Creighton—Chairman.

Manitoba—Honourable Ivan Schultz,  
Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg,  
L. D. McNeill—Chairman.

New Brunswick—Honourable F. A. McGrath, M.D.,  
Minister of Health and Social Services.

The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton,  
J. W. Niles—Chairman.

Nova Scotia—Honourable F. R. Davis, M.D.,  
Minister of Public Health and Welfare.

The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax,  
H. S. Farquhar—Chairman.

Ontario—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto,  
C. H. Green—Chairman.

Prince Edward Island—Honourable William Hughes,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.

Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown,  
Peter D. Trainor—Chairman.

Quebec—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauvé,  
Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.

Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec,  
J. R. Forest—President.

Saskatchewan—Honourable O. W. Valleau,  
Minister of Social Welfare.

Social Welfare Board, Regina,  
J. S. White—Chairman.

#### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act during the fiscal year 1946-47. Orders in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, which authorized an increase of \$60 a year in the maximum pension and maximum income were continued in force during the fiscal year 1946-47 under Order in Council P.C. 7414 dated December 28, 1945, made under the provisions of The National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945.

The Speech from the Throne, delivered by His Excellency, the Governor General on January 30, 1947, contained the following reference to old age pensions and pensions for blind persons:—

“Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act will be introduced at the present session.”

### *5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations*

The Interprovincial Board appointed by Order in Council P.C. 1438, dated April 16, 1946, under section 34 of the Old Age Pensions Regulations, met at Ottawa from November 25 to November 28, 1946. The Interprovincial Board is authorized by the Old Age Pensions Regulations to interpret and recommend alterations in the Regulations. The most important recommendations made by the Board dealt with the following:—

- (1) an earlier age for making application for pension, the present requirement of 69 years and 9 months to be changed to 69 years and 6 months in the case of an applicant for an old age pension and from 39 years and 9 months to 39 years and 6 months in the case of an applicant for a pension in respect of blindness;
- (2) more explicit instructions on matters relating to investigations;
- (3) a more orderly method of obtaining proof of age including wider use of provincial vital statistics;
- (4) a broadening of certain regulations referring to residence in cases of temporary absence from Canada;
- (5) an entirely new method of determining the income of an applicant who owns real property and certain modifications of the method of calculating the income of an applicant who owns personal property;
- (6) a more generous regulation referring to the commencement date of pension;
- (7) an extension of the period spent outside of Canada during which a pensioner may continue to receive his pension;
- (8) a less restrictive procedure for recovering amounts received by pensioners under the Act in excess of the amounts to which they were entitled;
- (9) authority for disregarding direct relief paid by a province or a municipality in calculating the income of a pensioner.

In addition to the more important recommendations mentioned above the Interprovincial Board dealt with various minor alterations and revised the Regulations in order to attain greater simplicity, uniformity and clarity.

As at March 31, 1947, the new Regulations had not been submitted to the Governor in Council for approval and, therefore, did not come into operation during the fiscal year 1946-47.

### *6. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions*

During the fiscal year April 1, 1946 to March 31, 1947, the Dominion's contributions to the provinces and payments to pensioners in the Northwest Territories amounted to \$13,829,579.98. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1947, was 209,029.

The following tables (Tables 1, 2 and 3) show the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age or over at the end of the fiscal years 1942-43 to 1946-47, the number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1937-38 to 1946-47 and the Dominion's payments for the same period.

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OVER

Province	Year ended Mar. 31, 1943	Year ended Mar. 31, 1944	Year ended Mar. 31, 1945	Year ended Mar. 31, 1946	Year ended Mar. 31, 1947
Alberta.....	46.39	44.28	45.67	43.21	43.92
British Columbia.....	35.87	34.48	33.36	35.40	35.37
Manitoba.....	44.64	42.03	41.08	43.27	43.82
New Brunswick.....	56.28	56.40	58.42	60.30	60.73
Nova Scotia.....	46.93	44.64	43.85	46.16	46.68
Ontario.....	30.85	29.25	29.35	30.26	31.29
Prince Edward Island.....	31.73	31.47	31.40	33.00	35.20
Quebec.....	44.38	42.87	44.01	44.84	45.79
Saskatchewan.....	48.42	45.55	44.23	44.66	44.39

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age or over as at June 1st in each year.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1946-47

Province	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Alberta.....	9,726	10,175	10,677	10,746	10,952	11,134	11,071	11,418	12,098	12,738
British Columbia.....	11,563	12,504	13,386	13,942	14,464	14,348	14,481	15,344	16,637	18,039
Manitoba.....	11,800	12,128	12,560	12,727	12,701	12,498	12,188	12,324	12,981	13,533
New Brunswick.....	11,142	11,564	11,815	11,747	11,779	11,818	11,843	12,269	12,663	13,360
Nova Scotia.....	13,827	14,221	14,502	14,454	14,285	14,080	13,838	14,032	14,771	15,403
Ontario.....	57,530	58,858	59,717	59,224	59,232	57,692	56,156	58,113	60,831	65,055
Prince Edward Island.....	1,811	1,891	2,007	1,987	1,952	1,904	1,888	1,884	1,980	2,112
Quebec.....	46,490	47,939	48,797	48,000	47,338	47,045	47,153	49,289	51,567	54,489
Saskatchewan.....	11,775	12,227	12,567	13,111	13,211	13,074	12,755	12,827	13,398	14,204
Northwest Territories.....	9	7	7	8	8	8	11	12	15	16
	175,673	181,514	186,035	185,946	185,922	183,601	181,384	187,512	196,941	209,029

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1936-37 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 9).

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1946-47

Province	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,560,571 47	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48	1,778,022 53	1,797,083 27
British Columbia.....	1,955,951 01	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	2,331,331 44	2,403,312 55
Manitoba.....	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	2,106,858 53	2,087,719 03
New Brunswick.....	1,333,673 27	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	1,551,711 34	1,559,883 08
Nova Scotia.....	1,836,704 46	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	1,941,171 82	1,936,831 62
Ontario.....	9,527,468 70	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	9,814,403 80	9,772,690 43
Prince Edward Island.....	167,330 39	179,121 07	193,970 13	203,135 81	200,171 11
Quebec.....	*8,386,230 60	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34	7,199,832 61	6,762,038 15
Saskatchewan.....	1,757,834 87	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	1,973,786 81	2,009,282 60
Northwest Territories.....	1,714 56	1,898 91	1,764 41	1,678 06	1,895 68
	28,524,587 23	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90	28,901,932 75	28,530,907 52

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1946-47—*Concluded*

Province	1942-43		1943-44		1944-45		1945-46		1946-47	
	\$	cts.								
Alberta.....	1,833,573	90	2,062,796	03	2,401,386	15	2,526,214	64	2,699,425	03
British Columbia.....	2,443,152	70	2,791,031	33	3,236,033	65	3,485,885	07	3,767,623	23
Manitoba.....	2,093,379	84	2,002,573	38	2,879,947	97	2,684,083	31	2,826,747	15
New Brunswick.....	1,606,402	93	1,732,670	49	2,390,977	80	2,498,871	32	2,649,019	60
Nova Scotia.....	1,948,074	78	2,137,241	68	2,807,800	33	2,913,972	32	3,093,204	05
Ontario.....	9,633,658	18	10,310,621	89	12,291,117	43	13,129,815	81	13,886,363	96
Prince Edward Island.....	208,587	31	268,515	03	311,582	78	322,440	55	350,808	13
Quebec.....	7,048,885	34	8,535,362	81	10,386,114	68	10,823,345	20	11,466,940	27
Saskatchewan.....	2,043,409	91	2,352,406	79	2,794,902	96	2,903,019	80	3,085,226	48
Northwest Territories.....	2,060	66	2,372	68	3,073	80	3,579	07	4,222	08
	28,861,185	55	32,195,592	11	39,503,027	55	41,291,227	09	43,829,579	98

\* Includes payments from August 1, 1936, for pensions granted during the fiscal year 1937-38.

NOTE. For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1936-37 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 10).

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include the provinces' share of 25 per cent of the net sum paid out for old age pensions or the cost of supplemental allowances provided by certain provinces.

### 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving Old Age Pensions as at March 31, 1947, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1947, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1947, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1946.

TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1947

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	*Act effective Aug. 1, 1929	*Act effective Sept. 1, 1927	*Act effective Sept. 1, 1928	*Act effective July 1, 1936	*Act effective Mar. 1, 1934	*Act effective Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners:	12,738	18,039	13,583	13,360	15,403	65,085
Average monthly pension:	\$24.11	\$24.22	\$24.53	\$22.68	\$22.76	\$24.52
Percentage of pensioners to total population:	1.59	1.80	1.87	2.78	2.52	1.53
Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population:	3.63	5.08	4.26	4.58	5.39	5.06
Percentage of pensions to population over 70 years of age:	43.92	35.37	43.82	60.73	46.68	31.29
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1947:	686,160.54	960,841.83	723,424.31	676,088.17	784,883.22	3,558,366.75
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction for quarter ended March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period:	143,960.93	203,761.16	151,447.44	151,512.49	174,325.98	734,763.30
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1946–March 31, 1947:	2,699,425.03	3,767,623.23	2,826,747.15	2,649,019.60	3,093,204.05	13,886,363.96
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction April 1, 1946–March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period:	566,269.18	790,630.25	595,204.94	595,051.70	687,373.25	2,877,766.30
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of O.A.P. Act:	26,548,213.59	36,662,529.96	33,437,277.81	19,162,121.62	27,370,182.59	157,074,038.97
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation and Demobilization and Reconstruction since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Old Age Pensions Act:	1,809,891.74	2,518,462.54	1,996,148.63	1,746,384.64	2,015,294.59	9,072,128.82
Charged to War Appropriation:	1,108,453.38	1,339,387.85	1,256,559.03	1,007,715.09	1,160,792.77	5,496,719.84
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation:	135,169.18	188,444.44	144,384.66	143,617.85	167,128.57	697,642.68
Charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction:	566,269.18	790,630.25	595,204.94	595,051.70	687,373.25	2,877,766.30

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 11.

7. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions—Concluded*

TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1947—Continued

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	*Act effective July 1, 1933	*Act effective Aug. 1, 1936	*Act effective May 1, 1928	Order in Council effective Jan. 25, 1929	
Number of pensioners.....	2,112	54,489	14,204	16	209,029
Average monthly pension	\$19.36	\$24.01	\$24.37	\$24.69	.....
†Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	2.25	1.50	1.71	1.13	.....
†Percentage of persons over 70 years of age to total population.....	6.38	3.28	3.86	1.52	.....
†Percentage of pensioners to population over 70 years of age.....	35.20	45.79	44.39	8.74	.....
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1947	89,663.27	2,918,223.28	776,497.53	1,180.97	11,175,329.87
Amount charged to Demobilization and Reconversion for quarter ended March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period	17,932.65	599,317.72	162,086.35	241.56	2,339,349.58
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1946–March 31, 1947.....	350,808.13	11,466,940.27	3,085,226.48	4,229.08	43,829,579.98
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconversion April 1, 1946–March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period	70,161.62	2,359,248.51	643,348.76	847.58	9,185,902.09
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of O.A.P. Act.....	2,918,178.18	88,349,133.09	32,318,988.24	35,587.88	423,876,251.93
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation and Demobilization and Reconstruction since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of Old Age Pensions Act.....	228,179.85	7,887,119.69	2,122,014.99	2,421.23	29,398,046.72
Charged to War Appropriation	141,252.62	4,055,916.70	1,325,022.81	1,358.34	17,933,178.43
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation	16,765.61	571,954.48	153,643.42	215.31	2,218,966.20
Charged to Demobilization and Reconversion.....	70,161.62	2,359,248.51	643,348.76	847.58	9,185,902.09

\* Dominion Old Age Pensions Act.

† Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1946—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements with Provinces*

The agreements with reference to pensions for blind persons made by the Governor in Council with the Lieutenant-Governors in Council of the nine provinces under subsection 1 of section 3 of the Old Age Pensions Act continued in operation without change during the fiscal year 1946-47. As in the case of old age pensions the two supplementary agreements with the provinces under the provisions of Orders in Council P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, were continued in force during the fiscal year 1946-47 under Order in Council P.C. 7414, dated December 28, 1945 made under the authority of The National Emergency Transitional Powers Act, 1945. Orders in Council P.C. 8341 dated October 28, 1943 and P.C. 6500 dated August 18, 1944 providing for the additional benefits being allowed to persons in the Northwest Territories were also continued in force.

### *2. Administration—Dominion*

Following the transfer of the administration of the Old Age Pensions Act in 1945 from the Department of Finance to the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Dominion administration of pensions for blind persons continued in the Old Age Pensions Division of the Welfare Branch of the latter Department. The Division of Blindness Control in the Health Branch is, however, responsible for certifying whether or not each applicant for a pension in respect of blindness is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations and for authorizing any additional medical examinations considered to be necessary. The cost of the medical examination of applicants for pensions in respect of blindness and blind pensioners during the fiscal year 1946-47 was \$5,240.00.

The Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, is responsible for the granting and paying of pensions for blind persons in the Northwest Territories.

### *3. Administration—Provincial*

The boards and commissions appointed by the Provincial Governments as pension authorities to administer old age pensions also administer pensions for blind persons. The provincial pension authorities are shown in section 3 of part A of this report.

During the fiscal year 1946-47 there were no changes in the schemes for the administration of pensions for blind persons approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1946.

### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act during the fiscal year 1946-47. As in the case of Old Age Pensions the Orders in Council made under the War Measures Act which increased the maximum pension and maximum income provided by the Act were continued in force during the fiscal year 1946-47.

### *5. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

The recommendations made by the Interprovincial Board following its meeting in November, 1946, which are summarized under section 5 of part A of

this report apply to pensions for blind persons as well as to old age pensions. The recommendations referring to the regulations dealing exclusively with pensions for blind persons do not contain any significant alterations in the regulations. They do, however, simplify and clarify a number of the regulations particularly those dealing with purely technical matters such as the test of blindness and the procedure to be followed in obtaining evidence to show that the applicant is or is not blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations.

#### 6. Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of pensions in respect of blindness for the fiscal year April 1, 1946 to March 31, 1947, amounted to \$1,615,135.59. The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1947, was 7,311.

The following tables (Tables 5 and 6) show the number of persons receiving pensions for the blind under the Old Age Pensions Act at the end of each fiscal year from 1937-38 to 1946-47 and the Dominion's contributions on account of pensions for blind persons during the same period.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1946-47

Province	Number of Pensioners									
	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Alberta.....	146	183	197	215	239	242	247	269	290	
British Columbia.....	76	232	290	301	327	334	323	336	340	370
Manitoba.....	98	206	268	307	327	348	339	348	365	391
New Brunswick.....	114	510	652	704	740	722	710	736	737	753
Nova Scotia.....	171	493	573	610	620	620	633	640	664	685
Ontario.....	683	1,154	1,333	1,448	1,506	1,502	1,449	1,488	1,543	1,623
Prince Edward Island.....	41	104	115	116	115	116	111	110	119	121
Quebec.....	710	1,453	1,741	1,947	2,079	2,173	2,250	2,425	2,568	2,709
Saskatchewan.....	53	214	249	283	314	320	317	333	340	363
Northwest Territories.....	1,046	4,512	5,404	5,913	6,243	6,374	6,374	6,663	6,945	7,311

TABLE 6.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1946-47

Province	Dominion's Contributions				
	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....		19,289 81	30,064 83	33,607 58	36,780 14
British Columbia.....	3,025 41	37,323 55	46,626 94	50,584 46	55,163 66
Manitoba.....	6,412 39	33,506 77	42,471 01	51,033 74	56,228 04
New Brunswick.....	8,993 93	86,516 77	108,624 41	121,246 70	128,292 16
Nova Scotia.....	11,984 87	74,418 04	91,261 80	102,375 34	105,970 09
Ontario.....	38,535 29	189,162 73	225,446 58	248,955 03	264,006 67
Prince Edward Island.....	660 12	10,518 23	13,207 31	14,337 93	14,071 95
Quebec.....	57,028 48	263,451 54	294,276 96	336,873 46	365,525 53
Saskatchewan.....	1,777 76	36,166 98	43,943 25	50,752 69	54,850 39
Northwest Territories.....	128,418 25	760,354 42	895,923 09	1,009,766 93	1,080,888 63

TABLE 6.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTION FOR FISCAL YEARS 1937-38 TO 1946-47  
—Concluded

Province	Dominion's Contributions				
	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	40,968 59	47,914 22	54,289 17	57,550 39	62,155 43
British Columbia.....	58,363 31	65,828 76	73,302 49	75,441 39	80,435 16
Manitoba.....	59,752 81	60,199 34	85,129 83	79,472 92	86,624 75
New Brunswick.....	129,585 11	136,447 29	161,588 00	161,978 47	166,413 70
Nova Scotia.....	107,396 52	114,042 77	140,039 16	142,671 86	147,485 80
Ontario.....	266,354 07	283,956 32	331,210 30	341,573 54	359,859 91
Prince Edward Island.....	15,249 06	19,545 00	22,011 81	22,794 94	24,211 44
Quebec.....	379,129 29	452,061 25	530,168 53	568,427 51	605,760 62
Saskatchewan.....	58,029 54	64,035 18	74,238 68	76,835 99	81,938 78
Northwest Territories.....					250 00
	1,114,828 30	1,244,030 13	1,471,977 97	1,526,747 01	1,615,135 59

The figures shown in Table 6 do not include the provinces' share amounting to 25 per cent of the net sum paid out for pensions in respect of blindness or the cost of supplemental allowances provided by certain provinces.

*7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons*

The following table (Table 7) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1946-47, also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1947, for the fiscal year 1946-47, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1947.

TABLE 7.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1947

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia
	*Act effective Mar. 7, 1938	*Act effective Dec. 1, 1937	*Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	*Act effective Sept. 1, 1937	*Act effective Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	290	370	391	758	685
Average monthly pension.....	\$24.51	\$24.59	\$24.71	\$24.65	\$24.25
†Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.036	.037	.054	.158	.112
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1947.....	16,079.46	20,582.35	21,856.19	41,895.38	37,154.30
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconversion for quarter ended March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions (in the same period)	3,296.40	4,208.59	4,477.44	8,538.02	7,714.69
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1946 to March 31, 1947	62,155.43	80,435.16	86,624.75	166,413.70	147,485.80
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconversion April 1, 1946-March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions (in the same period)	12,736.28	16,472.88	17,784.71	33,977.67	30,782.96
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act	382,620.16	546,075.13	560,881.60	1,209,686.54	1,037,646.25
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation and Demobilization and Reconstruction since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act	41,094.31	54,705.63	58,332.61	109,637.07	95,007.22
Charged to War Appropriation	25,340.82	34,386.71	36,363.69	67,359.37	56,614.86
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation	3,017.21	3,846.04	4,244.21	8,300.03	7,669.40
Charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction	12,736.28	16,472.88	17,784.71	33,977.67	30,782.96

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 16.

7. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons—Concluded*

TABLE 7.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1947—Concluded

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories		Totals
					*Act effective Nov. 15, 1937	Order in Council effective Mar. 30, 1938	
Number of pensioners.....	1,623	121	2,709	363	1	7,311	
Average monthly pension.....	\$24.71	\$22.84	\$24.73	\$24.83	\$25.00	.....	
†Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.040	.129	.075	.044	.008	.....	
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1947.....	89,854.05	6,040.88	153,263.50	20,556.84	75.00	407,356.75	
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconversion for quarter ended March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	18,558.54	1,208.18	31,329.92	4,172.75	15.00	83,519.53	
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1946 to March 31, 1947.....	359,859.91	24,211.44	605,760.62	81,938.78	250.00	1,615,135.59	
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconversion April 1, 1946-March 31, 1947 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	74,017.27	4,842.29	123,995.67	16,639.55	50.00	331,299.28	
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	2,559,080.44	156,607.79	3,852,703.17	542,569.24	250.00	10,848,070.32	
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation and Demobilization and Reconversion since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.	236,967.17	16,054.85	404,783.26	55,289.85	50.00	1,072,011.97	
Charged to War Appropriation.....	144,827.80	10,030.78	251,329.01	34,700.66	.....	660,923.70	
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation.....	18,122.10	1,181.78	29,458.58	3,949.64	.....	79,788.99	
Charged to Demobilization and Reconversion.....	74,017.27	4,842.29	123,995.67	16,639.55	50.00	331,299.28	

\* Dominion Old Age Pensions Act.

+ Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1946—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 8.—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1947

Province	Number of pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act				Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age		Blind				
				\$	cts.	\$	cts.			
Alberta	12,738	290	13,028	26,548	213 59	382,620	16	26,930,833 75		
British Columbia	18,039	370	18,409	36,662	529 96	546,075	13	37,208,605 09		
Manitoba	13,583	391	13,974	33,437	277 81	560,831	60	33,998,109 41		
New Brunswick	13,360	758	14,118	19,162	121 62	1,209,686	54	20,371,808 16		
Nova Scotia	15,403	685	16,088	27,370	182 59	1,037,646	25	28,407,828 84		
Ontario	65,085	1,623	66,708	157,074	038 97	2,559,080	44	159,633,119 41		
Prince Edward Island	2,112	121	2,233	2,918	178 18	156,607	79	3,074,785 97		
Quebec	54,489	2,709	57,198	88,349	133 09	3,852,703	17	92,201,836 26		
Saskatchewan	14,204	363	14,567	32,318	988 24	542,569	24	32,861,557 48		
Northwest Territories	16	1	17	35,587	88	250	00	35,837 88		
	209,029	7,311	216,340	423,876	251 93	10,848,070	32	434,724,322 25		

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1945-46 AND 1946-47

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1946	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1947	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions		Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly pension	
				fiscal year 1945-46	fiscal year 1946-47		March 31, 1946	March 31, 1947
				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Alberta	12,098	12,738	640	2,526,214	64	2,699,425	03	24 12
British Columbia	16,637	18,039	1,402	3,485,885	07	3,767,522	23	24 34
Manitoba	12,981	13,583	602	2,684,803	31	2,825,747	15	24 54
New Brunswick	12,663	13,360	697	2,498,872	32	2,649,019	60	22 68
Nova Scotia	14,771	15,403	632	2,913,972	32	3,093,204	05	22 76
Ontario	60,831	65,085	4,254	13,129,815	81	13,886,363	96	24 48
Prince Edward Island	1,980	2,112	132	322,440	55	350,808	13	19 36
Quebec	51,557	54,489	2,922	10,823,345	20	11,466,940	27	24 01
Saskatchewan	13,398	14,204	806	2,903,019	80	3,085,226	48	24 55
Northwest Territories	15	16	1	3,579	07	4,222	08	24 37
	196,941	209,029		12,088	41,291,227	09	43,829,579	98
				1,043	2,538,352	89	2,538,352	89

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1945-46 AND 1946-47

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1946	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1947	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions		Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly pension	
				fiscal year 1945-46	fiscal year 1946-47		March 31, 1946	March 31, 1947
				\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Alberta	269	290	21	57,550	39	62,155	43	24 51
British Columbia	340	370	30	75,441	39	80,435	16	24 59
Manitoba	365	391	26	70,472	92	86,624	75	24 84
New Brunswick	737	758	21	161,978	47	166,413	70	24 65
Nova Scotia	664	685	21	142,671	86	147,485	80	24 25
Ontario	1,543	1,623	80	341,373	54	350,860	91	24 71
Prince Edward Island	119	121	2	22,794	94	24,211	44	22 84
Quebec	2,568	2,709	141	568,427	51	605,760	62	24 73
Saskatchewan	340	363	23	76,835	99	81,938	78	24 83
Northwest Territories		1	1			250	00	
	6,945	7,311		1,526,747	01	1,615,135	59	88,338 58







Doe  
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, CANADA

Report on the  
**Administration of Old Age Pensions**  
AND

**Pensions for Blind Persons  
in Canada**

Under the Provisions of the

**Old Age Pensions Act**

Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)

1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)

11 George VI, Chapter 67 (1947)

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1948

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.  
KING'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY  
1948



*To His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., LL.D., A.D.C., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1948, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PAUL MARTIN,  
*Minister of National Health and Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1948.

The Honourable PAUL MARTIN,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

SIR, —I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1948, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,  
*Deputy Minister of Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1948.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

	A. OLD AGE PENSIONS	PAGE
1.	Agreements with Provinces.....	5
2.	Administration—Dominion.....	6
3.	Administration—Provincial.....	6
4.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	7
5.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	9
6.	Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions.....	10
7.	Financial and Statistical Summary.....	12
	 B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS	
1.	Agreements with Provinces.....	14
2.	Administration—Dominion.....	14
3.	Administration—Provincial.....	14
4.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons.....	14
5.	Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons.....	14
6.	Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons.....	15
7.	Financial and Statistical Summary.....	16

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1947-1948

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces*

During the session of 1947 Parliament amended the Old Age Pensions Act. Following the amendments to the Act it was necessary for Canada to enter into new agreements with the nine provinces. The agreements were ratified and confirmed by Order in Council, P.C. 3644 dated September 9, 1947, and later amended in minor respects by Order in Council, P.C. 459 dated February 6, 1948. Under the terms of the new agreements the benefits of the amended Act were made effective in all provinces, except Nova Scotia, as from May 1, 1947. The effective date of the agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia was August 1, 1947. Under the provisions of the amended Old Age Pensions Act each province is free to fix the amount of the maximum pension and the amount of the maximum income allowed within the limits specified in the Act. In the agreements made with Canada all provinces agreed to pay a maximum pension of \$360 a year with the maximum income allowed by the Act.

Prior to the completion of the new agreements four separate agreements between Canada and each of the nine provinces had been in operation. Two of the agreements covered old age pensions and pensions for blind persons as provided by the Old Age Pensions Act. The other two agreements, referred to as "supplementary agreements", were made under Orders in Council, P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, passed under the authority of the War Measures Act. The two Orders in Council provided for an increase of \$60 a year in the maximum pension and the maximum income allowed by the Act in the case of any province entering into a supplementary agreement with Canada. As the amendments to the Act increased the maximum pension to which the Dominion would contribute its share of 75% and the maximum income allowed pensioners by amounts in excess of \$60 a year the Orders in Council were no longer necessary and they were, therefore, revoked as of August 1, 1947 by Order in Council, P.C. 3644 dated September 9, 1947.

The benefits of the amended Act were brought into operation in the Northwest Territories by Order in Council, P.C. 5285 dated December 23, 1947. Under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act the scheme for the administration and payment of pensions set forth in the Order in Council stands, in all respects other than its duration, in the same position as an agreement with a province. The former scheme was cancelled by the revocation of Orders in Council, P.C. 114 dated January 25, 1929 and P.C. 656 dated March 30, 1938. The two Orders in Council were revoked by Order in Council, P.C. 5285 dated December 23, 1947.

The increase of \$60 a year in the maximum pension and the maximum income allowed authorized by Orders in Council, P.C. 6367 dated August 10, 1943 and P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, passed under the authority of the War Measures Act was extended to the Northwest Territories by Orders in Council, P.C. 8341 dated October 28, 1943 and P.C. 6500 dated August 18, 1944. The two latter Orders in Council were revoked by Order in Council, P.C. 5085 dated December 11, 1947.

The following is a summary of agreements made by Canada with the Provinces since the inception of the Old Age Pensions Act—

EFFECTIVE DATE OF AGREEMENTS

Province	Original agreement	Amend-ment 1931 (1)	Amend-ment 1937 (2)	War Measures Act		Amend-ment 1947 (5)
				1943 (3)	1944 (4)	
Alberta.....	Aug. 1, 1929	Nov. 1, 1931	Mar. 7, 1938	Sept. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
British Columbia.....	Sept. 1, 1927	Nov. 1, 1931	Dec. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
Manitoba.....	Sept. 1, 1928	Nov. 1, 1931	Sept. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
New Brunswick.....	July 1, 1936.....		Sept. 1, 1937	Nov. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
Nova Scotia.....	Mar. 1, 1934.....		Oct. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	Aug. 1, 1947
Ontario.....	Nov. 1, 1929	Nov. 1, 1931	Sept. 1, 1937	Nov. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
Prince Edward Island.....	July 1, 1933.....		Dec. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
Quebec.....	Aug. 1, 1936.....		Oct. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
Saskatchewan.....	May 1, 1928.....	Nov. 1, 1931	Nov. 15, 1937	Sept. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	May 1, 1947
Northwest Territories.....	Jan. 25, 1929.....		Mar. 30, 1938	Sept. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1944	Dec. 1, 1947

**Note**—(1) In 1931 the Act was amended to increase the Dominion's share of pension paid from 50% to 75% (21-22 George V, Chap. 42 (1931), Assented to Aug. 3, 1931).

(2) In 1937 the Act was amended to provide for the payment of pensions to blind persons 40 years of age and over who fulfilled certain requirements as to nationality, residence and income. (1 George VI, Chap. 13 (1937), Assented to Mar. 31, 1937).

(3) By Order in Council, P.C. 6367 dated Aug. 10, 1943, the maximum pension was increased by \$60 a year from \$240 to \$300.

(4) By Order in Council, P.C. 3377 dated May 29, 1944, the maximum income allowed was increased by \$60 a year.

(5) In 1947 the Act was amended to increase the maximum pension to which Canada would contribute to \$360 a year, to increase the maximum income allowed and to modify certain requirements and procedures. (11 George VI, Chap. 67 (1947), Assented to July 17, 1947, Proclaimed Sept. 9, 1947).

## 2. Administration—Dominion

The Old Age Pensions Division of the Welfare Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, is responsible for the Dominion administration of old age pensions. The Division also acts as pension authority for the Northwest Territories.

## 3. Administration—Provincial

The provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act require a province making an agreement with Canada under the Act to submit for the approval of the Governor in Council its proposed scheme for the administration of pensions. Once the provincial scheme has been approved no change can be made in the scheme without the consent of the Governor in Council.

Prior to April 1, 1947, the Governor in Council had approved a scheme for the administration of pensions submitted by each province. During the fiscal year 1947-48 no changes were made in the schemes. The following is a list of departments of the provincial governments under which old age pensions are administered with the names of the minister and deputy minister of each department, the provincial pension authority and the chief officer of the pension authority or chief pensions officer—

### ALBERTA—

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Edmonton.

*Minister*—Honourable W. W. Cross, M.D., Minister of Public Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—A. H. Miller, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.

*Chief Officer*—Reginald Wilding, Chairman, Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA—

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Victoria.

*Minister*—Honourable George S. Pearson, Minister of Health and Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—E. W. Griffith, Deputy Minister of Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.

*Chief Officer*—J. H. Creighton, Chairman, Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.

**MANITOBA—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Public Welfare, Winnipeg.

*Minister*—Honourable Ivan Schultz, Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—F. W. Jackson, M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.

*Chief Officer*—L. D. McNeill, Chairman, The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.

**NEW BRUNSWICK—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Social Services, Fredericton.

*Minister*—Honourable F. A. McGrath, M.D., Minister of Health and Social Services.

*Deputy Minister*—J. A. Melanson, M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton.

*Chief Officer*—J. W. Niles, Director of Old Age Pensions, Fredericton.

**NOVA SCOTIA—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Halifax.

*Minister*—Honourable F. R. Davis, M.D., Minister of Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax.

*Chief Officer*—H. S. Farquhar, Director of Old Age Pensions, Halifax.

**ONTARIO—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Toronto.

*Minister*—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow, Minister of Public Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—B. W. Heise, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.

*Chief Officer*—Charles H. Green, Chairman, Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Charlottetown.

*Minister*—Honourable William Hughes, Minister of Health and Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—P. S. Fielding, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown.

*Chief Pensions Officer*—O. W. Campbell, Superintendent of Old Age Pensions, Charlottetown.

**QUEBEC—**

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare and of Youth, Quebec.

*Minister*—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauve, Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.

*Deputy Minister*—Gustave Poisson, K.C., Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.

*Pension Authority*—Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.

*Chief Officer*—J. R. Forest, President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.

**SASKATCHEWAN—**

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare, Regina.

*Minister*—Honourable O. W. Valleau, Minister of Social Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—J. S. White, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Social Welfare Board, Regina.

*Chief Pensions Officer*—D. E. Chalmers, Director of Old Age Pensions, Regina.

**4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act**

In the House of Commons on June 17, 1947, the Minister of National Health and Welfare moved that the House go into Committee to consider the following resolution—

"That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Old Age Pensions Act which will enlarge the scope of the Act by providing increases in the pension payable and the income allowable to pensioners and by modifying certain of the eligibility requirements for pension."

Following adoption of the Resolution the Minister moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 339, to amend the Old Age Pensions Act. The motion was agreed to and the Bill was read the first time.

The debate on the Bill took place on June 18th, 19th, 24th to 26th and 30th and was passed by the House of Commons on July 1st after having been amended to provide for the payment of pensions to blind persons at the age of 21 years instead of 40 years.

In the Senate Bill No. 339 was read the first time on July 1, 1947. The debate took place on July 7th and 8th. The Bill was passed by the Senate on July 8, 1947 and given Royal Assent on July 17, 1947, as Chapter 67 of the Statutes of 1947.

The amending Act contained the following provision—

Section 9 (1) "This Act shall not take effect until a proclamation is issued and as and from the date of such proclamation shall be deemed to have come into force on the first day of May, 1947."

The Act was proclaimed on September 9, 1947 and the proclamation was published in the *Canada Gazette* on September 11, 1947.

By the provisions of Chapter 67 of the Statutes of 1947 the Old Age Pensions Act is amended to provide—

1. that in an agreement with Canada a province is free to fix the amount of the maximum pension payable and the amount of the maximum income allowed within limits specified in the Act;
2. that under an agreement with a province Canada will contribute in respect of each person in receipt of pension from such province an amount not to exceed 75% of \$30 monthly or of the amount paid by such province monthly, whichever is the lesser.

The amending Act makes the following alterations in the requirements which an applicant for old age pension must fulfil—

1. The provincial residence requirement is deleted.
2. The nationality requirement is deleted.
3. The requirement for residence in Canada is changed to provide that where the applicant has not resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension he may qualify for pension if he has been present in Canada prior to such twenty years for an aggregate period equal to twice the aggregate period of absences from Canada during such twenty years.
4. The amount of the maximum income allowed is increased.

The amending Act also makes the following changes—

1. The provision under which a pensioner could transfer to the pension authority property used as a home is deleted.
2. The provision for distributing the cost of pension between provinces where the pensioner has resided in more than one province is deleted.
3. The provision for reducing pension on account of residence in a province not paying pensions is deleted.
4. A new provision is added permitting payment of pension under certain conditions to the date of the death of the pensioner.
5. The provision referring to the transfer of property now requires the pension authority to take into account transfers of property either by the applicant or by the applicant's spouse.

Other amendments deal with definitions and alterations in wording to comply with constitutional requirements.

Amendments to the Act referring only to blind pensioners will be found in Part B of this report.

## 5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations

The alterations in the Old Age Pensions Regulations recommended by the Interprovincial Board following the meeting of the Board in November, 1946, were approved by Order in Council, P.C. 1732 dated May 1, 1947. The revised Regulations were published in the *Canada Gazette* on May 15, 1947 and presented to Parliament on May 19, 1947.

The new Regulations provided for—

- (1) an earlier age for making application for pension;
- (2) more explicit instructions on matters relating to investigations;
- (3) a more orderly method of obtaining proof of age including wider use of provincial vital statistics;
- (4) a broadening of certain regulations referring to residence in cases of temporary absence from Canada;
- (5) an entirely new method of determining the income of an applicant who owns real property and certain modifications of the method of calculating the income of an applicant who owns personal property;
- (6) a more generous regulation referring to the commencement date of pension;
- (7) an extension of the period spent outside of Canada during which a pensioner may continue to receive his pension;
- (8) a less restrictive procedure for recovering amounts received by pensioners under the Act in excess of the amounts to which they were entitled;
- (9) authority for disregarding direct relief paid by a province or a municipality in calculating the income of a pensioner;
- (10) authority to recalculate the income from personal property under certain circumstances.

Extensive amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act in 1947 made it necessary to reconsider certain of the new Regulations. It was suggested to the provinces that the Interprovincial Board should meet as soon as possible after the Act was amended to deal with a number of proposed amendments to the Regulations. The earliest date on which the Board could be brought together was, however, January 12, 1948. The Board met in Ottawa on that date and, after discussions lasting three days, made a number of recommendations intended mainly to bring the Regulations into line with the amended Act.

The most important recommendations made by the Interprovincial Board were as follows—

- (1) a new regulation providing that an application is deemed to have been made only when an application completed by the applicant is actually received in the office of the pension authority for the province in which the applicant is resident;
- (2) a change in the regulations referring to investigations to permit the pension authority to make an investigation four months before the date of the proposed commencement of pension instead of three months;
- (3) the deletion of regulations referring to nationality;
- (4) a new residence regulation permitting, in the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension, temporary absences from Canada which, when totalled and averaged, do not exceed 60 days a year. This is intended to replace the old regulation

permitting an applicant to qualify for pension if he had lodged in Canada for 5,844 days during the said twenty years or since attaining the age of fifty years and for 700 days during the last three years of the said twenty years;

- (5) the deletion of the regulations referring to residence in a province;
- (6) the deletion of the regulation permitting the pension authority, under certain conditions, to disregard a temporary absence of thirty days;
- (7) an alteration in the income regulations to require the calculation of an annuity as of the actual age of the pensioner or seventy years, whichever is the lower;
- (8) an amendment to the income regulations to permit the reduction of personal property owned by the spouse as well as by the pensioner where the personal property is used for medical expenses and other specified purposes;
- (9) an amendment to the income regulations to allow a change in the calculation of income where the spouse of the pensioner reconverts certain personal property into real property for use exclusively as a residence or shelter by the pensioner and spouse;
- (10) amendments to the regulations referring to the transfer of property to include transfers of property owned by the spouse and to delete certain rules of procedure to be followed where property is transferred which were previously included in the regulations and are now set forth in the Act.

As at March 31, 1948, the new Regulations had not been submitted to the Governor in Council for approval and, therefore, did not come into effect during the fiscal year 1947-48. Approval was given, however, on April 29, 1948, by Order in Council, P.C. 1860.

#### *6. Dominion's Payments on account of Old Age Pensions*

During the fiscal year April 1, 1947 to March 31, 1948, the Dominion's contributions to the provinces and payments to pensioners in the Northwest Territories amounted to \$56,978,389.27. The number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1948, was 229,158.

The following tables (Tables 1, 2 and 3) show the percentage of pensioners to population seventy years of age or over at the end of the fiscal years 1943-44 to 1947-48, the number of persons receiving old age pensions at the close of each fiscal year from 1938-39 to 1947-48 and the Dominion's payments for the same period.

TABLE 1.—PERCENTAGE OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS TO POPULATION SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OVER

Province	Year ended Mar. 31, 1944	Year ended Mar. 31, 1945	Year ended Mar. 31, 1946	Year ended Mar. 31, 1947	Year ended Mar. 31, 1948
Alberta.....	44.28	45.67	43.21	43.92	46.23
British Columbia.....	34.48	33.36	35.40	35.37	39.03
Manitoba.....	42.03	41.08	43.27	43.82	46.09
New Brunswick.....	56.40	58.42	60.30	60.73	65.72
Nova Scotia.....	44.64	43.85	46.16	46.68	50.55
Ontario.....	29.25	29.35	30.26	31.29	32.27
Prince Edward Island.....	31.47	31.40	33.00	35.20	38.98
Quebec.....	42.87	44.01	44.84	45.79	47.86
Saskatchewan.....	45.55	44.23	44.66	44.39	45.84

The percentages are based on the estimated population seventy years of age or over as at June 1st in the preceding year.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS  
1938-39 TO 1947-48

Province	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Alberta.....	10,175	10,677	10,746	10,952	11,134	11,071	11,418	12,098	12,738	13,792
British Columbia.....	12,504	13,386	13,942	14,464	14,348	14,481	15,344	16,637	18,039	21,621
Manitoba.....	12,128	12,560	12,727	12,701	12,498	12,188	12,324	12,981	13,583	15,026
New Brunswick.....	11,564	11,815	11,747	11,779	11,818	11,843	12,269	12,663	13,360	14,524
Nova Scotia.....	14,221	14,502	14,454	14,285	14,080	13,833	14,032	14,771	15,403	16,984
Ontario.....	58,858	59,717	59,224	59,232	57,692	56,156	58,113	60,831	65,085	70,705
Prince Edward Island.....	1,891	2,007	1,987	1,952	1,904	1,888	1,884	1,980	2,112	2,417
Quebec.....	47,939	48,797	48,000	47,338	47,045	47,153	49,289	51,567	54,489	59,204
Saskatchewan.....	12,227	12,587	13,111	13,211	13,074	12,755	12,827	13,398	14,204	14,806
Northwest Territories.....	7	7	8	8	8	11	12	15	16	19
	181,514	186,035	185,946	185,922	183,601	181,364	187,512	196,941	209,029	229,158

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1937-38 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 9).

TABLE 3.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1938-39 TO 1947-48

Province	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	1,657,567 24	1,737,003 48	1,778,022 53	1,797,083 27	1,833,573 90
British Columbia.....	2,071,000 36	2,220,133 70	2,331,331 44	2,403,312 55	2,443,152 70
Manitoba.....	1,992,400 38	2,061,961 16	2,106,858 53	2,087,719 03	2,093,379 84
New Brunswick.....	1,440,354 10	1,530,249 39	1,551,711 34	1,559,883 08	1,606,402 93
Nova Scotia.....	1,866,723 83	1,913,180 85	1,941,171 82	1,936,831 62	1,948,074 78
Ontario.....	9,615,751 34	9,770,254 94	9,814,403 80	9,772,690 43	9,633,658 18
Prince Edward Island.....	179,121 07	193,970 13	203,135 81	200,171 11	208,587 31
Quebec.....	7,637,019 04	7,758,257 34	7,199,832 61	6,762,038 15	7,048,885 34
Saskatchewan.....	1,821,447 84	1,893,855 50	1,973,786 81	2,009,282 60	2,043,409 91
Northwest Territories.....	1,898 91	1,764 41	1,678 06	1,895 68	2,060 66
	28,283,284 11	29,080,630 90	28,901,932 75	28,530,907 52	28,861,185 55
Province	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
	\$ cts.				
Alberta.....	2,062,796 03	2,401,386 15	2,526,214 64	2,699,425 03	3,466,114 21
British Columbia.....	2,791,031 33	3,236,033 65	3,485,885 07	3,767,023 23	5,171,017 31
Manitoba.....	2,002,573 38	2,879,947 97	2,684,083 31	2,826,747 15	3,727,392 10
New Brunswick.....	1,732,670 49	2,390,977 80	2,498,871 32	2,649,019 60	3,634,260 45
Nova Scotia.....	2,137,241 68	2,807,890 33	2,913,972 32	3,093,204 05	3,943,563 30
Ontario.....	10,310,621 89	12,291,117 43	13,129,815 81	13,886,363 96	17,999,870 26
Prince Edward Island.....	268,515 03	311,582 78	322,440 55	350,808 13	478,924 19
Quebec.....	8,535,362 81	10,386,114 68	10,823,345 20	11,466,940 27	14,714,436 55
Saskatchewan.....	2,352,406 79	2,794,902 96	2,903,019 80	3,085,226 48	3,836,980 15
Northwest Territories.....	2,372 68	3,073 80	3,579 07	4,222 08	5,830 75
	32,195,592 11	39,503,027 55	41,291,227 09	43,829,579 98	56,978,389 27

NOTE.—For fiscal years 1927-28 to 1937-38 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1942 (Page 10).

The figures shown in Table 3 do not include the provinces' share of 25 per cent of the net sum paid out for old age pensions or the cost of supplemental allowances provided by certain provinces.

### 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 4) shows the number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1948, the Dominion's contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1948, the total of the Dominion's contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1948, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1947.

TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1948

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act (Dominion) operative as from					
	Aug. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1927	Sept. 1, 1928	July 1, 1936	Mar. 1, 1934	Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	13,792	21,621	15,026	14,524	16,984	70,765
Average monthly pension.....	\$29.69	\$20.54	\$29.71	\$29.37	\$29.19	\$29.71
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.68	2.07	2.02	2.96	2.73	1.69
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	3.63	5.31	4.39	4.50	5.41	5.24
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	46.28	39.03	46.09	65.72	50.55	32.27
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1948.....	936,117.32	1,422,587.46	990,582.25	957,422.93	1,106,937.82	4,775,779.68
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1947–March 31, 1948.....	3,466,114.21	5,171,017.31	3,727,382.10	3,634,260.45	3,943,563.30	17,999,870.26
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction April 1, 1947–March 31, 1948 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	48,005.63	68,740.97	50,525.59	51,101.65	236,273.44	245,133.25
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of the O.A.P. Act.....	30,014,327.80	41,833,547.27	37,164,660.91	22,736,382.07	31,313,745.89	175,073,903.23
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization and Reconstruction since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of the O.A.P. Act.....	1,857,897.37	2,587,203.51	2,046,674.22	1,797,486.29	2,251,568.03	9,317,262.07
Charged to War Appropriation.....	1,108,453.38	1,539,387.85	1,250,559.03	1,007,715.09	1,160,792.77	5,496,719.84
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization.....	135,169.18	188,444.44	144,334.66	143,617.85	167,128.57	697,642.68
Appropriation.....	614,274.81	839,371.22	645,730.53	646,153.35	923,046.69	3,122,899.53
Charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction.....						

## 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions—Concluded

TABLE 4.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1948—Concluded

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	July 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1936	Act (Dominion) operative as from		
			May 1, 1928	Jan. 25, 1929	
Number of pensioners .....	2,417	59,204	14,806	19	229,158
Average monthly pension .....	\$24.82	\$29.08	\$29.60	\$29.21	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population .....	2.57	1.50	1.76	0.16	.....
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population .....	6.60	3.33	3.84	1.52	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over .....	38.98	47.86	45.84	10.38	.....
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1948	131,729 61	3,904,133 01	1,013,117 13	1,631 69	15,240,038 95
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1947–March 31, 1948 .....	478,924 19	14,714,436 55	3,836,980 15	5,830 75	56,978,389 27
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction April 1, 1947–March 31, 1948 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period .....	6,023 65	200,220 33	53,710 31	420 25	960,155 12
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of the O.A.P. Act .....	3,397,102 37	103,063,569 64	36,155,968 39	41,418 63	480,854,641 20
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation and Demobilization and Reconstruction since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of the O.A.P. Act .....	234,203 50	8,087,340 07	2,175,725 30	2,841 48	30,353,201 84
Charged to War Appropriation .....	141,252 62	4,955,916 70	1,335,022 81	1,358 34	17,933,178 43
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation .....	16,765 61	571,954 48	153,043 42	215 31	2,218,966 20
Charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction .....	76,185 27	2,559,468 89	697,050 07	1,267 83	10,146,057 21

\*Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1947—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements with Provinces*

The new agreements made by Canada with the nine provinces following the amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act passed by Parliament at the session of 1947 cover pensions for blind persons as well as old age pensions. Information regarding the new agreements is given under section 1 of Part A of this report.

### *2. Administration—Dominion*

There are two separate branches of the Dominion administration of pensions for blind persons, one responsible for the medical examination of applicants and the other for the payment of the Dominion's share of pensions.

The Division of Blindness Control in the Health Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare is responsible for deciding whether or not each applicant for pension is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations. Medical examinations are made by oculists appointed by the Minister of National Health and Welfare and the cost of such examinations paid by the Dominion. During the fiscal year 1947-48 the cost to the Dominion for medical examinations was \$8,330.00.

The Old Age Pensions Division of the Welfare Branch is responsible for making payments to the provinces and acts as pension authority in the Northwest Territories.

### *3. Administration—Provincial*

The provincial pension authorities listed in section 3 of Part A of this report administer pensions for blind persons as well as old age pensions. During the fiscal year 1947-48 there were no changes in the schemes for the administration of pensions for blind persons approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1947.

### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

The amendments to the Act in 1947 which are outlined in section 4 of Part A of this report apply to pensions for blind persons as well as to old age pensions. In addition to such amendments, however, there are certain other amendments which refer only to pensions in respect of blindness. They are as follows—

- (1) the qualifying age is lowered from forty to twenty-one years;
- (2) the use of the expression "is, and continues to be, so blind as to be unable to perform any work for which eyesight is essential" as part of the test of blindness has been discontinued;
- (3) the provision which required the reduction by one-half of a pension granted to a blind person who married another blind person has been deleted;
- (4) the provision which required that a dependent child must be living with the pensioner in order for the pensioner to be allowed a higher maximum income has been deleted.

As in the case of old age pensions the amendments substantially increased the maximum income allowed a blind pensioner and a sighted pensioner with a blind spouse.

### *5. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

The amendments to the regulations shown in section 5 of Part A of this report apply to pensions in respect of blindness as well as to old age pensions.

Few of the regulations which refer exclusively to blind pensioners were affected by changes in the Act. An important change was made, however, in connection with the matter of determining whether or not a person claiming to be blind was actually blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations where he or she was not an applicant but the spouse of an applicant for a pension in respect of blindness. While the regulations do not authorize the

examination of persons other than applicants the test for blindness in the regulations now applies to all blind persons mentioned in the Act.

#### 6. Dominion's Payments on account of Pensions for Blind Persons

The Dominion's contributions to the provinces on account of pensions in respect of blindness for the fiscal year April 1, 1947 to March 31, 1948, amounted to \$2,107,989.00. The number of persons receiving pensions in respect of blindness as at March 31, 1948, was 8,476.

The following tables (Tables 5 and 6) show the number of persons receiving pensions for the blind under the Old Age Pensions Act at the end of each fiscal year from 1938-39 to 1947-48 and the Dominion's contributions on account of pensions for blind persons during the same period.

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF BLIND PENSIONERS AT END OF FISCAL YEARS  
1938-39 TO 1947-48

Province	Number of Pensioners									
	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Alberta.....	146	183	197	215	239	242	247	269	290	332
British Columbia.....	232	290	301	327	334	323	336	340	370	460
Manitoba.....	206	268	307	327	348	339	348	365	391	455
New Brunswick.....	510	652	704	740	722	710	736	737	758	896
Nova Scotia.....	493	573	610	620	620	633	640	664	685	805
Ontario.....	1,154	1,333	1,448	1,506	1,502	1,449	1,488	1,543	1,623	1,814
Prince Edward Island.....	104	115	116	115	116	111	110	119	121	126
Quebec.....	1,453	1,741	1,947	2,079	2,173	2,250	2,425	2,508	2,789	3,178
Saskatchewan.....	214	249	283	314	320	317	333	340	363	409
Northwest Territories.....									1	1
	4,512	5,404	5,913	6,243	6,374	6,374	6,663	6,945	7,311	8,476

NOTE.—For fiscal year 1937-38 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1947 (Page 13).

TABLE 6.—DOMINION'S CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1938-39 TO 1947-48

Province	Dominion's Contributions				
	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	19,289 81	30,064 83	33,607 58	36,780 14	40,968 59
British Columbia.....	37,323 55	46,626 94	50,564 46	55,163 66	58,363 31
Manitoba.....	33,506 77	42,471 01	51,033 74	56,228 04	59,752 81
New Brunswick.....	86,516 77	108,624 41	121,246 70	128,292 16	129,585 11
Nova Scotia.....	74,418 04	91,261 80	102,375 34	105,970 09	107,396 52
Ontario.....	199,162 73	225,446 58	248,975 03	264,006 67	266,354 07
Prince Edward Island.....	10,518 23	13,207 31	14,337 93	14,071 95	15,249 06
Quebec.....	263,451 54	294,276 96	336,873 46	365,525 53	379,129 29
Saskatchewan.....	36,166 98	43,943 25	50,752 69	54,850 39	58,029 54
Northwest Territories.....					
	769,354 42	895,923 09	1,009,766 93	1,080,888 63	1,114,828 30

Province	Dominion's Contributions				
	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	47,914 22	54,289 17	57,550 39	62,155 43	81,255 50
British Columbia.....	65,828 76	73,302 49	75,441 39	80,435 16	108,588 79
Manitoba.....	80,199 34	85,129 83	79,472 92	86,624 75	114,974 51
New Brunswick.....	136,447 29	161,588 00	161,978 47	166,413 70	217,407 30
Nova Scotia.....	114,042 77	140,039 16	142,671 86	147,485 80	181,815 41
Ontario.....	283,956 32	331,210 30	341,573 54	359,859 91	464,863 54
Prince Edward Island.....	19,545 00	22,011 81	22,794 94	24,211 44	29,423 60
Quebec.....	452,061 25	530,168 53	568,427 51	605,766 02	801,694 04
Saskatchewan.....	64,035 18	74,238 68	76,835 99	81,938 78	107,611 31
Northwest Territories.....				250 00	355 00
	1,244,030 13	1,471,977 97	1,526,747 01	1,615,135 59	2,107,989 00

NOTE.—For fiscal year 1937-38 see Report to Parliament on Old Age Pensions and Pensions for Blind Persons for fiscal year ended March 31, 1947 (Page 13).

The figures shown in Table 6 do not include the provinces' share amounting to 25 per cent of the net sum paid out for pensions in respect of blindness or the cost of supplemental allowances provided by certain provinces.

*7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons*

The following table (Table 7) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1947-48, also the amount of the Dominion's contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1948, for the fiscal year 1947-48, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1948:—

TABLE 7.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1948

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Act (Dominion) operative as from		
						Mar. 7, 1938	Dec. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	332	460	455	896	805			
Average monthly pension.....	\$29.98	\$29.67	\$29.92	\$29.83	\$29.59			
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.040	.044	.061	.182	.130			
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1948.....	22,953 00	31,818 51	31,674 14	62,673 29	53,019 63			
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1947-March 31, 1948.....	81,255 50	108,588 79	114,974 51	217,407 30	181,815 41			
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconversion April 1, 1947-March 31, 1948 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	1,076 54	1,357 90	1,543 54	2,891 08	10,467 36			
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	463,875 66	654,663 92	675,806 11	1,427,093 84	1,219,491 66			
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation and Demobilization and Reconversion since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	42,170 85	56,063 53	59,876 15	112,528 15	105,564 53			
Charged to War Appropriation.....	25,340 82	34,386 71	36,303 69	67,359 37	56,644 86			
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation.....	3,017 21	3,846 04	4,244 21	8,300 03	7,669 40			
Charged to Demobilization and Reconversion .....	13,812 82	17,830 78	19,328 25	36,888 75	41,250 32			

## 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons—Concluded

TABLE 7.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1948—  
*Concluded*

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
	Act (Dominion) operative as from					
	Sept. 1, 1937	Dec. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1937	Nov. 15, 1937	Mar. 30, 1938	
Number of pensioners .....	1,814	126	3,178	409	1	8,476
Average monthly pension .....	\$29.83	\$27.91	\$29.69	\$29.78	\$30.00	.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.043	.134	.086	.049	.008	.....
Dominion Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1948 .....	132,447.86	7,759.99	225,486.38	30,044.61	90.00	597,967.41
Dominion Government's contributions April 1, 1947–March 31, 1948 .....	464,863.54	29,423.60	801,694.04	107,611.31	355.00	2,107,989.00
Amounts charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction April 1, 1947–March 31, 1948 and included in Dominion Government's contributions for the same period.....	6,302.99	399.49	10,769.16	1,429.68	25.00	36,262.74
Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act .....	3,023,943.98	186,031.39	4,654,397.21	6,50,180.55	605.00	12,936,059.32
Amounts charged to War Appropriation, War Expenditure and Demobilization, Appropriation and Demobilization and Reconstruction since amendment under the War Measures Act and included in Dominion Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act	243,270.16	16,454.34	415,552.42	56,719.53	75.00	1,108,274.71
Charged to War Appropriation .....	144,827.80	10,030.78	251,329.01	34,700.66	.....	600,923.70
Charged to War Expenditure and Demobilization Appropriation .....	18,122.10	1,181.78	29,458.58	3,949.64	.....	79,758.99
Charged to Demobilization and Reconstruction .....	80,320.26	5,241.78	131,764.83	18,069.23	75.00	307,562.02

\*Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1947—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 8.—RECAPITULATION

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1948

Province	Number of pensioners		Total	Dominion's contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age	Blind			
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.		
Alberta.....	13,792	332	14,124	30,014,327 80	463,875 66	30,478,203 46		
British Columbia.....	21,621	460	22,081	41,833,547 27	654,663 92	42,488,211 19		
Manitoba.....	15,026	455	15,481	37,164,669 91	675,806 11	37,840,476 02		
New Brunswick.....	14,524	896	15,420	22,796,382 07	1,427,093 84	24,223,475 91		
Nova Scotia.....	16,984	805	17,789	31,313,745 89	1,219,461 66	32,533,207 55		
Ontario.....	70,765	1,814	72,579	175,703,909 23	3,023,943 98	178,097,855 21		
Prince Edward Island.....	2,417	126	2,543	3,397,102 37	186,031 39	3,583,133 76		
Quebec.....	59,204	3,178	62,382	103,063,569 64	4,654,397 21	107,717,966 85		
Saskatchewan.....	14,806	409	15,215	36,155,968 39	650,180 55	36,806,148 94		
Northwest Territories.....	19	1	20	41,418 63	605 00	42,023 63		
	229,158	8,476	237,634	480,854,641 20	12,956,059 32	493,810,700 52		

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1946-47 AND 1947-48

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1947	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1948	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1946-47	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1947-48	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly pension	
							\$ cts.	\$
Alberta.....	12,738	13,792	1,054	2,699,425 03	3,466,114 21	766,689 18	24 11	29 69
British Columbia.....	18,039	21,621	3,582	3,767,623 23	5,171,017 31	1,403,394 08	24 22	29 54
Manitoba.....	13,583	15,026	1,443	2,826,747 15	3,727,392 10	900,644 95	24 53	29 71
New Brunswick.....	13,360	14,524	1,164	2,649,019 60	3,634,260 45	985,240 85	22 68	29 37
Nova Scotia.....	15,403	16,984	1,581	3,093,204 05	3,943,563 30	850,359 25	22 76	29 19
Ontario.....	65,085	70,765	5,680	13,886,363 96	17,999,870 26	4,113,506 30	24 52	29 71
Prince Edward Island.....	2,112	2,417	305	350,808 13	478,924 19	128,116 06	19 36	24 82
Quebec.....	54,489	59,204	4,715	11,466,940 27	14,714,436 55	3,247,498 28	24 01	29 08
Saskatchewan.....	14,204	14,806	602	3,085,228 48	3,836,980 15	751,753 67	24 37	29 60
Northwest Territories.....	16	19	3	4,222 08	5,830 75	1,608 67	24 69	29 21
	209,029	229,158	20,129	43,829,579 98	56,978,389 27	13,148,809 29	.....	.....

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1946-47 AND 1947-48

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1947	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1948	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1946-47	Dominion's contributions fiscal year 1947-48	Net increase in amount of Dominion's contributions	Average monthly pension	
							\$ cts.	\$
Alberta.....	290	332	42	62,155 43	81,255 50	19,100 07	24 51	29 98
British Columbia.....	370	460	90	80,435 16	108,588 79	28,153 63	24 59	29 67
Manitoba.....	391	455	64	86,624 75	114,974 51	28,349 76	24 71	29 92
New Brunswick.....	758	896	138	166,413 70	217,407 30	50,993 60	24 65	29 83
Nova Scotia.....	685	805	120	147,485 80	181,815 41	34,329 61	24 25	29 59
Ontario.....	1,623	1,814	191	359,859 91	464,863 54	105,003 63	24 71	29 83
Prince Edward Island.....	121	126	5	24,211 44	29,423 60	5,212 16	22 84	27 91
Quebec.....	2,709	3,178	469	605,760 62	801,694 04	195,933 42	24 73	29 69
Saskatchewan.....	363	409	46	81,938 78	107,611 31	25,672 53	24 83	29 78
Northwest Territories.....	1	1	.....	250 00	355 00	105 00	25 00	30 00
	7,311	8,476	1,165	1,615,135 59	2,107,989 00	492,853 41	.....	.....





DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, CANADA

Report on the  
**Administration of Old Age Pensions**  
AND  
**Pensions for Blind Persons  
in Canada**  
Under the Provisions of the  
**Old Age Pensions Act**

Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

- 21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)
- 1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)
- 11 George VI, Chapter 67 (1947)

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1949

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.,  
KING'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY  
1949



*To His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., LL.D., A.D.C., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1949, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PAUL MARTIN,  
*Minister of National Health and Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1949.

The Honourable PAUL MARTIN,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1949, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,  
*Deputy Minister of Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1949.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	5
2. Administration—Federal.....	5
3. Administration—Provincial.....	5
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	7
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	7
6. Interprovincial Board.....	7
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	10

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	12
2. Administration—Federal.....	12
3. Administration—Provincial.....	12
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons.....	12
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons.....	12
6. Interprovincial Board.....	12
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	13

### C. STATISTICS

1. Recapitulation 1948-49 and Comparative Statements.....	15
2. Recapitulation of Federal Payments from inception of Act.....	16
3. Recapitulation of Provincial Statistical data.....	20

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1948-49

---

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces*

The agreements made in 1947 by the Federal Government with the Governments of the nine provinces under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act continued in force without change during the fiscal year 1948-49. Under the provisions of the Act a province may specify the maximum pension to be paid by the province and provide for the reduction of such maximum pension by the amount of any income received by a pensioner in excess of an amount of income to be specified in its agreement. Each province in making an agreement has specified a maximum pension of \$30 a month with the maximum amounts of income, including pension, allowed by the Act. By the terms of the agreements the Federal Government is required to contribute in respect of each person granted pension by the province in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations, an amount not to exceed 75 per centum of \$30 monthly or of the amount paid by the province monthly, whichever is the lesser.

### 2. *Administration—Federal*

The Old Age Pensions Division of the Welfare Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, is responsible for the Federal administration of old age pensions. The Division also acts as pension authority for the Northwest Territories.

### 3. *Administration—Provincial*

During the fiscal year 1948-49 the Province of Ontario modified the scheme for the administration of pensions previously adopted by the Province and approved by the Governor in Council. Under the modified scheme the Old Age Pensions Commission may consist of one, two or three persons appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. Members of welfare units established under the authority of The Welfare Units Act, 1948, of the Province of Ontario are authorized to perform certain duties in the administration of pensions. The scheme for the administration of pensions in the Province of Ontario as set forth in The Old Age Pensions Act, 1948 (Ontario) and the Regulations made thereunder was approved by Order of the Governor in Council P.C. 5126 dated November 5, 1948, effective as of October 1, 1948.

The schemes for the administration of pensions in the other provinces which had been approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1948 were not altered during the fiscal year 1948-49.

The following is a list of departments of provincial governments under which old age pensions are administered with the names of the minister and deputy minister of each department, the provincial pension authority and the chief officer of the pension authority or chief pensions officer—

**ALBERTA—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Edmonton.  
*Minister*—Honourable W. W. Cross, M.D., Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—A. H. Miller, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.  
*Chief Officer*—Reginald Wilding, Chairman, Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Victoria.  
*Minister*—Honourable George S. Pearson, Minister of Health and Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—E. W. Griffith, Deputy Minister of Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.  
*Chief Officer*—J. H. Crichton, Chairman, Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.

**MANITOBA—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Public Welfare, Winnipeg.  
*Minister*—Honourable Ivan Schultz, Minister of Health and Public Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—C. R. Donovan, M.D., D.P.H., Acting Deputy Minister of Health and Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.  
*Chief Officer*—I. D. McNeill, Chairman, The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.

**NEW BRUNSWICK—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Social Services, Fredericton.  
*Minister*—Honourable F. A. McGrand, M.D., Minister of Health and Social Services.  
*Deputy Minister*—J. A. Melanson, M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services.  
*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton.  
*Chief Officer*—J. W. Niles, Director of Old Age Pensions, Fredericton.

**NOVA SCOTIA—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Halifax.  
*Minister*—Honourable Lauchlin D. Currie, Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax.  
*Chief Officer*—H. S. Farquhar, Director of Old Age Pensions, Halifax.

**ONTARIO—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Toronto.  
*Minister*—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow, Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—B. W. Heise, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.  
*Chief Officer*—S. N. Asbury, Chairman, Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Charlottetown.  
*Minister*—Honourable A. W. Matheson, Minister of Health and Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—P. S. Fielding, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown.  
*Chief Pensions Officer*—O. W. Campbell, Superintendent of Old Age Pensions, Charlottetown.

**QUEBEC—**

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare and of Youth, Quebec.  
*Minister*—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauve, Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.  
*Deputy Minister*—Gustave Poisson, K.C., Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.  
*Pension Authority*—Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.  
*Chief Officer*—J. R. Forest, President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.

**SASKATCHEWAN—**

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation, Regina.  
*Minister*—Honourable John H. Sturdy, Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.  
*Deputy Minister*—J. S. White, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.  
*Pension Authority*—Social Welfare Board, Regina.  
*Chief Pensions Officer*—D. E. Chalmers, Director of Old Age Pensions, Regina.

#### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act during the fiscal year 1948-49.

#### *5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations*

Changes in the Old Age Pensions Regulations recommended by the Inter-provincial Board in January, 1948, were approved by Order of the Governor in Council P.C. 1860, dated April 29, 1948. The most important amendments were as follows—

- (1) a new regulation providing that an application is deemed to have been made only when an application completed by the applicant is actually received in the office of the pension authority for the province in which the applicant is resident;
- (2) a change in the regulations referring to investigations to permit the pension authority to make an investigation four months before the date of the proposed commencement of pension instead of three months;
- (3) the deletion of regulations referring to nationality;
- (4) a new residence regulation permitting, in the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of pension, temporary absences from Canada which, when totalled and averaged, do not exceed 60 days a year. This is intended to replace the old regulation permitting an applicant to qualify for pension if he had resided in Canada for 5,844 days during the said twenty years or since attaining the age of fifty years and for 700 days during the last three years of the said twenty years;
- (5) the deletion of the regulations referring to residence in a province;
- (6) the deletion of the regulation permitting the pension authority, under certain conditions, to disregard a temporary absence of thirty days;
- (7) an alteration in the income regulations to require the calculation of an annuity as of the actual age of the pensioner or seventy years, whichever is the lower;
- (8) an amendment to the income regulations to permit the reduction of personal property owned by the spouse as well as by the pensioner where the personal property is used for medical expenses and other specified purposes;
- (9) an amendment to the income regulations to allow a change in the calculation of income where the spouse of the pensioner reconverts certain personal property into real property for use exclusively as a residence or shelter by the pensioner and spouse;
- (10) amendments to the regulations referring to the transfer of property to include transfers of property owned by the spouse and to delete certain rules of procedure to be followed where property is transferred which were previously included in the regulations and are now set forth in the Act.

Order in Council P.C. 1860 dated April 29, 1948, was published in the *Canada Gazette* on June 18, 1948, and was presented to Parliament on June 28, 1948.

#### *6. Interprovincial Board*

The Old Age Pensions Act authorizes the Governor in Council to make regulations for carrying out the purposes and provisions of the Act. Under the provisions of the Act any alterations in the regulations apply in a province only

if the province has given its consent. The regulations authorize the Governor in Council to appoint an Interprovincial Board to interpret and recommend alterations in the regulations.

The existing Interprovincial Board was established by Order in Council P.C. 1438, dated April 16, 1946. The members of the Board as at March 31, 1949, were—

For Canada—Honourable Paul Martin,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Dr. George F. Davidson,  
Deputy Minister of Welfare.

For Alberta—Honourable W. W. Cross, M.D.,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

A. Blackie,  
Superintendent of Old Age Pensions.

For British Columbia—Honourable George S. Pearson,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.

J. H. Creighton,  
Chairman, Old-age Pension Board.

For Manitoba—Honourable Ivan Schultz,  
Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

L. D. McNeill,  
Chairman, The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board.

For New Brunswick—Honourable F. A. McGrath, M.D.,  
Minister of Health and Social Services.

J. W. Niles,  
Director of Old Age Pensions.

For Nova Scotia—Honourable Lauchlin D. Currie,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

H. S. Farquhar,  
Director of Old Age Pensions.

For Ontario—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

B. W. Heise,  
Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

For Prince Edward Island—Honourable A. W. Matheson,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.

Otto W. Campbell,  
Superintendent of Old Age Pensions.

For Quebec—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauve,  
Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.

J. R. Forest,  
President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission.

For Saskatchewan—Honourable John H. Sturdy,  
Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.

J. S. White,  
Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.

Since the Interprovincial Board was established in 1946 two meetings of the Board have been held at Ottawa. The first meeting was from November 25 to 28, 1946 and the second from January 12 to 14, 1948. The recommendations made by the Board in 1946 were shown in the report of the Minister of National Health and Welfare to Parliament on the administration of old age pensions and pensions for blind persons for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1947. The recommendations made in 1948 appeared in the report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1948.

### 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table I) shows the number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1949, federal contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1949, the total of federal contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1949, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1948.

TABLE I.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1949

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario
	Act (Federal) operative as from					
	Aug. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1927	Sept. 1, 1928	July 1, 1936	Mar. 1, 1934	Nov. 1, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	14,988	25,633	16,110	15,412	18,450	78,413
Average monthly pension.....	\$29.49	\$29.19	\$29.61	\$20.12	\$28.06	\$29.50
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.77	2.37	2.13	3.06	2.91	1.82
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	3.90	5.70	4.61	4.47	5.35	5.33
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	45.42	41.54	46.16	68.50	54.26	34.26
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1949.....	\$980,666.20	\$1,667,784.37	\$1,051,876.06	\$1,004,179.90	\$1,195,803.87	\$5,090,807.97
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1948—March 31, 1949.....	3,840,154.69	6,363,538.43	4,127,098.07	3,960,422.20	4,658,579.65	20,292,451.32
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act.....	33,854,482.49	48,197,085.70	41,291,767.98	26,756,804.27	35,972,325.54	195,366,360.55

TABLE I.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1939—Concluded

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals
		Act (Federal) operative as from			
	July 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1936	May 1, 1928	Jan. 25, 1929	
Number of pensioners.....	2,688	64,366	15,785	20	251,805
Average monthly pension	\$26.34	\$28.94	\$29.19	\$29.75	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	2.89	1.70	1.85	0.17	
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	6.07	3.33	4.03	1.52	
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	43.35	50.96	45.89	10.93	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1939	\$1,531,63.35	\$4,192,574.44	\$1,021,141.13	\$1,341,100.19	
Federal Government's contribution April 1, 1938—March 31, 1939	593,167.14	13,253,424.14	4,117,264.48	7,633.78	64,288,210.92
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pension Act.....	3,900,172.54	119,337,511.86	50,271,258.87	49,082.11	545,083,852.12

\*Pension rates based on the estimate total population as at June 1, 1938—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Average monthly pension (Canada) \$29.21

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements with Provinces*

The agreements made with the provinces in 1947 apply to pensions for blind persons as well as to old age pensions. The agreements continued in force during the fiscal year 1948-49.

### *2. Administration—Federal*

The Old Age Pensions Division is responsible for payment of the Federal share of pensions granted by the provinces to blind persons and also acts as pension authority for the Northwest Territories.

Before a pension in respect of blindness can be granted satisfactory evidence must be obtained to show that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Old Age Pensions Regulations. In all but a few cases the applicant must be examined by an oculist. The Blindness Control Division in the Health Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare is responsible for the medical examination of applicants for pensions in respect of blindness. During the fiscal year 1948-49 the cost of medical examinations was \$13,110. In addition to this amount \$1,462.30 was paid as travelling expenses, mostly to oculists making group examinations at specified points. The amounts payable to oculists as fees and travelling expenses are set forth in Order in Council P.C. 57/3255 dated July 21, 1948.

### *3. Administration—Provincial*

The new scheme for the administration of old age pensions in the Province of Ontario referred to in section 3 of Part A of this report also applies to pensions for blind persons.

No changes were made during the fiscal year 1948-49 in other schemes for the administration of pensions for blind persons approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1948. Pensions for blind persons are administered by the provincial pension authorities shown in section 3 of Part A of this report.

### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

No amendments were made to the Old Age Pensions Act during the fiscal year 1948-49.

### *5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

The amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations made by Order in Council P.C. 1860 dated April 29, 1948, as summarized in section 5 of Part A of this report, apply to pensions in respect of blindness as well as to old age pensions.

The amendments to the Act in 1947 providing for a higher maximum income where a pensioner has a blind spouse make it necessary in some cases to apply the test for blindness to a person who is not an applicant for pension. The section of the Regulations which sets forth the test for blindness was, therefore, amended to provide that the test would apply to other persons as well as to applicants.

### *6. Interprovincial Board*

The Interprovincial Board referred to in section 6 of Part A of this report has the same powers of interpreting and recommending alterations in the Regulations referring specifically to pensions in respect of blindness as it has in connection with Regulations applying to old age pensions.

### 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—*Pensions for Blind Persons*

The following table (Table 2) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1948-49, also the amount of federal contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1949, for the fiscal year 1948-49, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1949. —

TABLE 2.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1949

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia
	Mar. 7, 1938	Dec. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	418	580	503	1,000	878
Average monthly pension.....	\$29.84	\$29.15	\$29.68	\$29.66	\$29.62
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.049	.034	.066	.199	.138
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1949	\$26,723.54	\$38,320.48	\$24,057.28	\$67,088.89	\$58,002.68
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1948—March 31, 1949	104,681.19	146,888.15	134,299.87	263,020.56	234,479.81
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	568,556.85	801,552.07	810,105.98	1,690,114.40	1,443,941.47

TABLE 2.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1949—  
*(continued)*

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Totals	
						Sept. 1, 1937	Dec. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	2,070	122	3,544	451	1	9,567	
Average monthly pension.....	\$29.63	\$28.58	\$29.60	\$29.69	\$30.00	.....	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.048	.131	.093	.053	.008	.....	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1949.....	\$130,858.61	\$7,860.72	\$240,534.31	\$30,695.04	\$120.00	\$643,870.55	
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1948—March 31, 1949.....	564,315.33	30,928.72	939,002.14	124,068.34	390.00	2,532,074.11	
Federal Government's contributions from incorporation of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act	3,588,259.31	213,960.11	5,593,390.35	774,248.89	995.00	15,488,133.43	

\*Percentages based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1948—Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Average monthly pension (Canada) \$29.59.

## C.—STATISTICS

### RECAPITULATION 1948-49 AND COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS

TABLE 3.—RECAPITULATION—1948-49

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1949

Province	Number of pensioners		Federal contributions since inception of the Act				Total	
	Old Age		Old Age		Blind			
	Old Age	Blind	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
Alberta.....	14,988	418	15,406	33,854,482 49	568,556 85		34,422,039 34	
British Columbia.....	25,633	580	26,213	48,197,085 70	801,552 07		48,998,637 77	
Manitoba.....	16,110	503	16,613	41,291,767 98	810,105 98		42,101,873 96	
New Brunswick.....	15,412	1,000	16,412	26,756,804 27	1,690,114 40		28,446,918 67	
Nova Scotia.....	18,450	878	19,328	35,972,325 54	1,443,941 47		37,416,267 01	
Ontario.....	78,413	2,070	80,483	195,366,360 55	3,588,259 31		198,954,619 86	
Prince Edward Island.....	2,688	122	2,810	3,990,172 51	216,960 11		4,207,132 62	
Quebec.....	64,366	3,544	67,910	119,337,511 80	5,593,399 35		124,930,911 15	
Saskatchewan.....	15,785	451	16,236	40,271,258 87	774,248 89		41,045,507 76	
Northwest Territories.....	20	1	21	49,082 41	995 00		50,077 41	
	251,865	9,567	261,432	545,086,852 12	15,488,133 43		560,574,985 55	

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1947-48 and 1948-49

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1948	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1949	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Federal contributions	Federal contributions	Net increase in amount of Federal contributions	Average monthly pension	
				fiscal year 1947-48	fiscal year 1948-49	March 31, 1948	March 31, 1949	
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	13,762	14,988	1,196	3,466,114 21	3,840,154 69	374,040 48	29 69	29 49
British Columbia.....	21,621	25,633	4,012	5,171,017 31	6,363,538 43	1,192,521 12	29 54	29 19
Manitoba.....	15,026	16,110	1,084	3,727,392 10	4,127,098 07	399,705 97	29 71	29 61
New Brunswick.....	14,524	15,412	888	3,634,266 45	3,900,422 20	326,161 75	29 37	29 12
Nova Scotia.....	16,984	18,450	1,466	3,943,553 30	4,658,579 65	715,018 35	29 19	28 96
Ontario.....	70,765	78,413	7,646	17,999,878 26	20,292,451 32	2,292,581 06	29 71	29 50
Prince Edward Island.....	2,417	2,688	271	478,924 19	583,070 14	114,145 05	28 82	26 36
Quebec.....	59,204	64,366	5,162,14,714,436 55	16,273,942 16	1,559,505 61	29 08	28 94	
Saskatchewan.....	14,806	15,785	979	3,836,980 45	4,115,290 48	278,310 33	29 60	29 19
Northwest Territories.....	19	20	1	5,830 75	7,663 78	1,833 03	29 21	28 75
	229,158	251,865		22,707,56,978,389 27	26,232,210 02	7,253,821 65		

TABLE 5.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1947-48 AND 1948-49

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1948	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1949	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Federal contributions	Federal contributions	Net increase in amount of Federal contributions	Average monthly pension	
				fiscal year 1947-48	fiscal year 1948-49	March 31, 1948	March 31, 1949	
				\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Alberta.....	332	418	86	81,255 50	104,681 19	23,425 69	29 98	29 84
British Columbia.....	460	580	120	108,588 79	146,888 15	38,299 36	29 67	29 15
Manitoba.....	455	503	48	114,974 51	134,299 87	19,325 39	29 92	29 68
New Brunswick.....	896	1,000	104	217,407 30	263,020 56	45,612 26	29 83	29 66
Nova Scotia.....	805	878	73	181,815 41	224,479 81	42,664 40	29 59	29 62
Ontario.....	1,814	2,070	256	464,863 54	564,315 33	99,451 79	29 83	29 63
Prince Edward Island.....	126	122	-4	29,423 60	30,928 72	1,505 12	27 91	28 58
Quebec.....	3,178	3,544	366	801,694 04	939,002 14	137,308 10	29 69	29 60
Saskatchewan.....	409	451	42	107,611 31	124,068 34	16,457 03	29 78	29 69
Northwest Territories.....	1	1	1	355 00	390 00	35 00	30 00	30 00
	8,476	9,567		1,001, 2,107,989 00	2,532,074 11	424,085 11		

## RECAPITULATION OF FEDERAL PAYMENTS FROM INCEPTION OF ACT

TABLE 6.—OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Number of pensioners at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1948-49 and amounts paid in each fiscal year by Federal Government

Fiscal Year	Number of Pensioners			Federal Payments					
	Old Age	Blind	Total	Old Age	Blind	Total			
				\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
1927-28.....	2,712	—	2,712	131,452	01	—	—	131,452	01
1928-29.....	10,588	—	10,588	832,686	78	—	—	832,686	78
1929-30.....	42,553	—	42,553	1,537,173	55	—	—	1,537,173	55
1930-31.....	57,930	—	57,930	5,658,142	52	—	—	5,658,142	52
1931-32.....	67,006	—	67,006	10,032,409	87	—	—	10,032,409	87
1932-33.....	71,705	—	71,705	11,512,542	73	—	—	11,512,542	73
1933-34.....	86,873	—	86,873	12,313,594	93	—	—	12,313,594	93
1934-35.....	101,051	—	101,051	14,942,459	36	—	—	14,942,459	36
1935-36.....	108,415	—	108,415	16,764,483	87	—	—	16,764,483	87
1936-37.....	146,524	—	146,524	21,149,351	52	—	—	21,149,351	52
1937-38.....	175,673	1,946	177,619	28,524,587	23	128,418	25	28,653,005	23
1938-39.....	181,514	4,512	186,026	28,283,284	11	780,354	42	29,043,638	53
1939-40.....	186,035	5,404	191,439	29,080,630	90	895,923	09	29,976,553	99
1940-41.....	185,946	5,913	191,859	28,901,932	75	1,009,766	93	29,911,699	68
1941-42.....	185,922	6,243	192,165	28,530,907	52	1,080,888	63	29,611,796	15
1942-43.....	183,601	6,374	189,975	28,861,185	55	1,114,828	30	29,976,013	85
1943-44.....	181,384	6,374	187,758	32,195,592	11	1,244,030	13	33,430,622	24
1944-45.....	187,512	6,663	194,175	39,503,027	55	1,471,977	97	40,975,005	52
1945-46.....	196,941	6,945	203,886	41,291,227	09	1,526,747	01	42,817,974	10
1946-47.....	209,029	7,311	216,340	43,829,579	98	1,615,135	59	45,444,715	57
1947-48.....	229,158	8,476	237,634	56,978,389	27	2,107,989	00	59,086,378	27
1948-49.....	251,865	9,567	261,432	64,232,210	92	2,532,074	11	66,764,285	03

TABLE 7.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1948-49

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Mani- toba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatch- ewan	North- West Terri- tories
1927-28.....	2,712	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1928-29.....	3,867	3,953	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,768	—
1929-30.....	2,017	4,576	5,104	—	—	26,370	—	—	4,452	4
1930-31.....	3,287	5,557	5,834	—	—	37,334	—	—	5,913	5
1931-32.....	4,382	6,486	7,190	—	—	41,300	—	—	7,643	5
1932-33.....	5,244	7,128	8,280	—	—	42,855	—	—	8,195	5
1933-34.....	6,286	8,095	9,236	—	6,509	46,281	1,258	—	9,203	5
1934-35.....	7,151	9,076	10,229	—	12,241	50,771	1,439	—	10,137	7
1935-36.....	8,086	10,011	10,862	—	13,044	54,040	1,659	—	10,706	7
1936-37.....	9,100	10,824	11,559	9,803	13,456	55,950	1,768	22,620	11,436	8
1937-38.....	9,726	11,563	11,800	11,142	13,827	57,530	1,811	46,490	11,775	9
1938-39.....	10,175	12,504	12,128	11,554	14,221	58,858	1,891	47,939	12,227	7
1939-40.....	10,677	13,386	12,560	11,815	14,502	59,717	2,007	48,797	12,567	7
1940-41.....	10,746	13,942	12,727	11,747	14,454	59,224	1,987	48,000	13,111	8
1941-42.....	10,952	14,464	12,701	11,779	14,285	59,232	1,952	47,338	13,211	8
1942-43.....	11,134	14,348	12,498	11,818	14,080	57,692	1,904	47,045	13,074	8
1943-44.....	11,071	14,481	12,188	11,843	13,838	56,156	1,888	47,153	12,755	11
1944-45.....	11,418	15,344	12,324	12,269	14,032	58,113	1,884	49,289	12,827	12
1945-46.....	12,098	16,637	12,981	12,663	14,771	60,831	1,980	51,567	13,398	15
1946-47.....	12,738	18,039	13,583	13,360	15,403	65,085	2,112	54,489	14,204	16
1947-48.....	13,792	21,621	15,026	14,524	16,984	70,765	2,417	59,204	14,806	19
1948-49.....	14,988	25,633	16,110	15,412	18,450	78,413	2,688	64,366	15,785	20

TABLE 8.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years  
1937-38 to 1948-49

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	North-West Territories
1937-38	.....	76	98	114	171	683	41	710	53	.....
1938-39	146	232	206	510	493	1,154	104	1,453	214	.....
1939-40	183	290	268	652	573	1,333	115	1,741	246	.....
1940-41	197	301	307	704	610	1,448	116	1,947	283	.....
1941-42	215	327	327	740	620	1,506	115	2,079	314	.....
1942-43	239	334	348	722	620	1,502	116	2,173	320	.....
1943-44	242	323	339	710	633	1,449 <sup>a</sup>	111	2,250	317	.....
1944-45	247	336	348	735	640	1,488	110	2,425	333	.....
1945-46	269	340	365	737	664	1,543	119	2,568	340	.....
1946-47	290	370	391	758	685	1,623	121	2,709	363	1
1947-48	332	460	455	876	805	1,844	126	3,178	406	1
1948-49	418	580	503	1,000	878	2,070	122	3,544	451	1

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1927-28 to 1948-49

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1927-28	131,452 01	242,303 86	355,828 97	355,828 97	355,828 97	355,828 97	355,828 97	355,828 97	191,041 97	557 74
1928-29	399,340 95	522,143 44	3,516,805 90	3,516,805 90	3,516,805 90	3,516,805 90	3,516,805 90	3,516,805 90	333,287 21	1,387 06
1929-30	62,555 15	801,044 45	6,039,971 87	6,039,971 87	6,039,971 87	6,039,971 87	6,039,971 87	6,039,971 87	1,184,539 97	1,467 71
1930-31	320,363 50	580,841 45	1,128,222 34	1,128,222 34	1,128,222 34	1,128,222 34	1,128,222 34	1,128,222 34	1,316,956 68	1,316,956 68
1931-32	645,367 48	1,032,840 50	1,176,137 75	1,176,137 75	1,176,137 75	1,176,137 75	1,176,137 75	1,176,137 75	1,328,057 26	1,398 07
1932-33	827,830 32	1,362,137 75	1,362,137 75	1,362,137 75	1,362,137 75	1,362,137 75	1,362,137 75	1,362,137 75	1,455,195 60	1,719 24
1933-34	934,387 91	1,304,144 08	1,516,372 06	1,516,372 06	1,516,372 06	1,516,372 06	1,516,372 06	1,516,372 06	1,582,604 89	1,655 84
1934-35	1,070,901 17	1,478,313 72	1,655,945 90	1,655,945 90	1,655,945 90	1,655,945 90	1,655,945 90	1,655,945 90	1,527,62	1,722 57
1935-36	1,224,104 53	1,672,830 60	1,797,144 68	1,797,144 68	1,797,144 68	1,797,144 68	1,797,144 68	1,797,144 68	1,757,834 87	1,714 56
1936-37	1,400,657 79	1,825,267 82	1,922,415 33	1,922,415 33	1,922,415 33	1,922,415 33	1,922,415 33	1,922,415 33	1,836,230 60	1,836,230 60
1937-38	1,580,571 47	1,955,351 01	1,997,107 90	1,997,107 90	1,997,107 90	1,997,107 90	1,997,107 90	1,997,107 90	1,730,39	1,730,39
1938-39	1,657,567 24	2,071,100 36	1,992,490 38	1,992,490 38	1,992,490 38	1,992,490 38	1,992,490 38	1,992,490 38	1,791,21 07	1,791,21 07
1939-40	1,737,003 48	2,220,133 70	2,061,961 16	2,061,961 16	2,061,961 16	2,061,961 16	2,061,961 16	2,061,961 16	1,821,447 84	1,821,447 84
1940-41	1,778,022 53	2,331,331 44	2,106,858 53	2,106,858 53	2,106,858 53	2,106,858 53	2,106,858 53	2,106,858 53	1,893,855 50	1,893,855 50
1941-42	1,797,083 27	2,403,312 55	2,087,719 03	2,087,719 03	2,087,719 03	2,087,719 03	2,087,719 03	2,087,719 03	1,973,786 81	1,678 06
1942-43	1,833,573 90	2,443,152 70	2,093,379 84	2,093,379 84	2,093,379 84	2,093,379 84	2,093,379 84	2,093,379 84	2,009,282 60	1,895 68
1943-44	2,062,796 03	2,791,631 33	2,002,573 38	2,002,573 38	2,002,573 38	2,002,573 38	2,002,573 38	2,002,573 38	2,043,409 91	2,060 66
1944-45	2,401,386 15	3,236,033 65	2,879,947 97	2,879,947 97	2,879,947 97	2,879,947 97	2,879,947 97	2,879,947 97	2,352,466 79	2,372 68
1945-46	2,526,214 64	3,485,885 07	2,684,083 31	2,684,083 31	2,684,083 31	2,684,083 31	2,684,083 31	2,684,083 31	2,036,114 68	3,073 89
1946-47	2,689,425 03	3,767,623 23	2,826,747 15	2,826,747 15	2,826,747 15	2,826,747 15	2,826,747 15	2,826,747 15	2,903,019 80	3,579 07
1947-48	3,466,114 21	3,727,382 31	5,171,017 31	5,171,017 31	5,171,017 31	5,171,017 31	5,171,017 31	5,171,017 31	3,085,226 48	4,222 08
1948-49	3,840,154 69	6,363,538 43	4,127,098 07	3,960,422 20	4,127,098 07	3,960,422 20	4,127,098 07	3,960,422 20	3,836,390 15	5,830 75
									4,115,290 48	7,663 73

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1937-38 to 1948-49

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia		Manitoba		New Brunswick		Nova Scotia		Ontario		Prince Edward Island		Quebec		Saskatchewan		Northwest Territories		
		\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	
1937-38	19,289	81	3,025	41	6,412	39	8,993	93	11,984	87	38,555	29	660	12	57,028	48	1,777	76	...	
1938-39	30,064	83	37,323	55	33,506	77	86,516	77	74,418	04	199,162	73	10,518	23	263	451	64	36,166	98	...
1939-40	35,401	58	46,026	94	42,471	01	108,624	41	91,261	80	225,446	58	13,207	31	294	276	96	43,943	25	...
1940-41	36,780	14	50,504	46	51,033	74	121,246	70	102,275	34	248,975	03	14,337	93	336,873	40	50,752	69	...	
1941-42	55,163	66	56,228	04	128,292	16	105,970	09	264,006	67	14,071	95	365,525	35	54,850	39	...	...	...	
1942-43	40,908	59	58,363	31	59,752	81	120,585	11	107,396	52	266,354	07	15,249	06	379,129	29	58,029	54	...	
1943-44	47,914	22	65,828	76	60,193	34	135,447	29	114,042	77	283,956	32	19,545	00	452,061	25	64,045	18	...	
1944-45	54,289	17	71,362	49	85,129	83	161,568	00	140,039	16	331,210	30	22,011	81	530,108	53	74,238	68	...	
1945-46	57,550	39	75,441	39	79,472	92	161,978	47	142,671	86	341,573	54	22,794	94	568,427	51	76,835	99	...	
1946-47	62,155	43	80,435	16	86,624	75	166,413	70	147,485	80	359,839	91	24,211	44	605,760	62	81,938	78	250,00	
1947-48	81,255	50	108,588	79	114,974	51	217,407	30	181,815	41	464,863	54	29,423	60	801,604	04	107,611	74	255,00	
1948-49	104,081	19	140,888	15	134,249	87	263,020	56	224,479	81	504,315	33	30,928	72	939,002	14	124,068	34	390,00	

PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL DATA FURNISHED BY THE PROVINCIAL  
PENSION AUTHORITIES

A—OLD AGE

PENSIONS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1948-49

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Total
Total.....	2,652	6,019	2,339	2,305	3,268	15,625	530	11,106	2,906	46,750
Male.....	1,514	3,405	1,218	1,162	1,692	7,123	249	5,441	1,567	23,371
Female.....	1,138	2,614	1,121	1,143	1,576	8,502	281	5,665	1,339	23,379
Married.....	1,362	2,618	1,207	1,189	1,603	6,581	234	5,325	1,472	21,591
Single.....	311	729	250	246	370	1,855	81	932	272	5,046
Widower.....	325	803	299	258	403	1,872	52	1,565	350	5,927
Widow.....	556	1,313	556	551	796	4,598	151	2,912	670	12,103
Separated.....	79	512	25	56	89	685	11	372	134	1,963
Divorced.....	19	44	2	5	7	34	1	.....	8	120
Age 70.....	1,298	2,309	1,239	1,334	1,407	5,930	184	6,441	1,337	21,479
71-5.....	882	2,429	759	590	1,148	5,840	180	2,880	1,113	15,821
76-80.....	319	867	229	245	428	2,434	80	950	307	5,859
Over 80.....	153	414	112	136	285	1,421	86	835	149	3,591

APPLICATIONS DECLINED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1948-49

Applicant was or had—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Total
1. Not 70.....	69	74	112	75	113	207	37	233	163	1,083
2. Unable to prove age.....	12	49	8	3	2	28	3	35	25	165
3. Too much income.....	75	103	42	182	191	332	27	290	251	1,493
4. Not sufficient residence.....	9	12	4	4	10	38	2	14	12	105
5. Unable to prove residence.....	12	1	2	2	2	2	.....	6	3	28
6. Transferred property.....	24	14	33	2	6	33	18	55	94	279
7. War Veterans Allowance.....	5	1	.....	11	6	41	2	8	13	87
8. Pension for blind.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	1	1	5	.....	10
9. An Indian.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	1	1	5	.....	10
10. Refused information.....	34	8	5	6	3	28	1	60	24	169
11. Assistance private source.....	.....	.....	4	3	55	3	.....	9	74	74
12. In mental hospital.....	.....	7	.....	.....	3	.....	1	7	18	18
13. Entitled to support.....	.....	.....	1	.....	7	1	1	.....	.....	10

APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

Applicant had—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Total
1. Withdrawn application.....	29	107	7	9	38	177	15	152	95	629
2. Died before grant.....	9	39	1	16	14	235	.....	85	46	445

## B.—BLIND

## PENSIONS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1948-49

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Total
Total.....	103	144	71	150	132	385	7	583	92	1,667
Male.....	59	97	35	78	64	200	3	298	51	885
Female.....	44	47	36	72	68	185	4	285	41	782
Married.....	41	49	34	68	49	133	3	242	42	661
Single.....	42	34	21	57	50	136	4	235	40	619
Widower.....	6	12	5	5	5	28	—	22	1	84
Widow.....	9	21	11	17	15	45	—	53	5	176
Separated.....	4	25	—	3	13	41	—	31	4	121
Divorced.....	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	6
Age 21.....	2	1	1	9	8	15	—	22	3	61
22-30.....	16	11	7	14	17	39	—	76	14	194
31-40.....	21	27	6	24	20	50	2	122	24	296
41-50.....	14	10	5	20	25	40	2	61	7	184
51-60.....	13	30	8	27	16	69	—	98	12	273
61-70.....	31	49	37	46	37	120	3	188	28	539
71-80.....	6	10	3	8	8	32	—	11	3	81
Over 80.....	—	6	4	2	1	20	—	5	1	39

## APPLICATIONS DECLINED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1948-49

Applicant was or had—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Total
1. Not 21.....	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	5	—	9
2. Unable to prove age.....	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	4
3. Too much income.....	6	4	4	5	11	14	—	33	10	87
4. Not sufficient residence.....	—	—	3	1	1	2	—	2	—	9
5. Unable to prove residence.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Transferred property.....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	4
7. War Veterans Allowance.....	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	6	—	9
8. Dependent pension (military).....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
9. Old age pension.....	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
10. An Indian.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
11. Refused information.....	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	7	2	13
12. Assistance private source.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. In mental hospital.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	5
14. Entitled to support.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
15. Unable to meet blind test.....	19	9	12	94	69	47	8	384	27	669

## APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

Applicant had—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Total
1. Withdrawn application.....	2	4	—	—	1	4	—	12	1	24
2. Died before grant.....	2	—	—	1	6	1	—	16	2	28







DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, CANADA

Report on the  
**Administration of Old Age Pensions**  
AND  
**Pensions for Blind Persons**  
**in Canada**  
Under the Provisions of the  
**Old Age Pensions Act**

Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

As Amended by—

- 21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)
- 1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)
- 11 George VI, Chapter 67 (1947)
- 13 George VI, Chapter 19 (1949)

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1950

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.  
KING'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY  
1950



*To His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., LL.D., A.D.C., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCE:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1950, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PAUL MARTIN,  
*Minister of National Health and Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1950.

The Honourable PAUL MARTIN,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1950, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,  
*Deputy Minister of Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1950.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	5
2. Administration—Federal.....	6
3. Administration—Provincial.....	6
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	8
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	9
6. Interprovincial Board.....	10
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	12

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	14
2. Administration—Federal.....	14
3. Administration—Provincial.....	14
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons.....	14
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons.....	14
6. Interprovincial Board.....	14
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	15

### C. STATISTICS

1. Recapitulation 1949–50 and Comparative Statements.....	17
2. Recapitulation of Federal Payments from inception of Act.....	18
3. Recapitulation of Provincial Statistical data.....	22

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1949-50

---

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces.*

An agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Yukon Territory came into operation on April 1, 1949. With its completion, pensions became available to aged and blind persons in all parts of Canada. Authority to enter into the agreement was given to the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory by an Ordinance called the "Old Age Pensions Ordinance", assented to April 8, 1949. Payment of pensions was authorized by Order of the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory, dated April 9, 1949.

Following the entry of Newfoundland into union with Canada, an agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland was completed providing for the payment of pensions from April 1, 1949. Authority for the province to enter into the agreement was given by the Newfoundland "Old Age and Blind Persons Pension Act, 1949", assented to March 31, 1949. Payment of pensions was authorized by Order in Council dated April 14, 1949. The Provincial Act provided that in the agreement the maximum pension to be paid was not to exceed \$30 monthly. The Act was amended by the "Old Age and Blind Persons Pension (Amendment) Act, 1949", assented to July 28, 1949, to permit of a new agreement being made to provide a maximum pension of \$40 a month.

The agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Yukon Territory was approved by Order in Council P.C. 2251, dated May 9, 1949, and the agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland, by Order in Council P.C. 2249, dated May 4, 1949.

Parliament amended the Old Age Pensions Act early in the fiscal year 1949-50 to increase the amount of the maximum pension to which the Government of Canada was authorized to contribute from \$30 to \$40 a month. Before the amendments could become operative, new agreements had to be entered into by the Government of Canada with the governments of the provinces. All provinces, with the exception of Newfoundland, made new agreements shortly after May 1, 1949, the date on which the amending Act was brought into force by proclamation. The benefits of the amending Act were also extended to pensioners in the Northwest Territories. A few months later the Government of the Yukon Territory entered into an agreement for payment of pensions at the higher rate. Shortly before the close of the fiscal year the Government

of Newfoundland made a new agreement similar to the agreements with the other nine provinces. The effective date of each new agreement and of the Order in Council applying to the Northwest Territories was as follows:—

Alberta.....	June	1, 1949
British Columbia.....	May	1, 1949
Manitoba.....	May	1, 1949
New Brunswick.....	May	1, 1949
Newfoundland.....	April	1, 1950
Northwest Territories.....	May	1, 1949
Nova Scotia.....	May	1, 1949
Ontario.....	May	1, 1949
Prince Edward Island.....	May	1, 1949
Quebec.....	May	1, 1949
Saskatchewan.....	May	1, 1949
Yukon Territory.....	July	1, 1949

Approval of the new agreements was given by the following Orders in Council:—

Alberta.....	P.C. 2724, dated May 27, 1949
British Columbia.....	P.C. 3036, dated June 16, 1949
Manitoba.....	P.C. 2725, dated May 27, 1949
New Brunswick.....	P.C. 2723, dated May 27, 1949
Newfoundland.....	P.C. 1114, dated March 7, 1950
Nova Scotia.....	P.C. 2546, dated May 18, 1949
Ontario.....	P.C. 2852, dated June 2, 1949
Prince Edward Island.....	P.C. 2853, dated June 2, 1949
Quebec.....	P.C. 2547, dated May 18, 1949
Saskatchewan.....	P.C. 2652, dated May 27, 1949
Yukon Territory.....	P.C. 3922, dated August 10, 1949.

The benefits provided by the amending Act were extended to the Northwest Territories by Order in Council P.C. 3421, dated July 13, 1949.

## 2. Administration—Federal

The Department of National Health and Welfare is responsible for federal administration of old age pensions. With the exception of persons residing in the Northwest Territories, all persons wishing to obtain old age pensions must apply to the pension authorities appointed by the provincial governments. Contact between federal administrative officers and provincial pension authorities is maintained by the Old Age Pensions Division in the Welfare Branch of the Department. The Division exercises control over expenditures by checking and examining accounts submitted by the provinces and by reviewing, in the provinces, decisions of the pension authorities affecting amounts paid out for pensions. Provincial pension authorities are required to administer pensions in accordance with the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act and Regulations.

The Old Age Pensions Division acts as pension authority for the Northwest Territories.

## 3. Administration—Provincial

The Old Age Pensions Act provides that before any agreement made pursuant to the Act comes into operation, the Governor in Council shall approve the

scheme for the administration of pensions proposed to be adopted by the province. Once approval has been given, no change may be made in a scheme without the consent of the Governor in Council.

The agreements between the Government of Canada and the Governments of Newfoundland and the Yukon Territory, completed during the fiscal year 1949-50, required approval of the provincial schemes for the administration of pensions. Approval of the Newfoundland scheme was given by Order in Council P.C. 2249, dated May 4, 1949, and of the scheme for the Yukon Territory by Order in Council P.C. 2251, dated May 9, 1949.

Among other things, a scheme for the administration of pensions provides for the appointment of a pension authority. The Yukon Territory Old Age Pensions Ordinance established a board of three members, to be known as the "Old Age Pensions Board", to act as pension authority for the Yukon Territory. The Newfoundland Old Age and Blind Persons Pension Act, 1949, provided for the appointment of a board of three members, to be known as "The Old Age Pensions Board", to act as pension authority for the province.

The schemes for the administration of pensions, adopted by the other provinces and approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1949, were not altered during the fiscal year 1949-50.

The following is a list of departments of provincial governments under which old age pensions are administered, with the names of the minister and deputy minister of each department, the provincial pension authority and the chief officer of the pension authority or chief pensions officer:—

#### ALBERTA—

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Edmonton.

*Minister*—Honourable W. W. Cross, Minister of Public Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—A. H. Miller, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.

*Chief Officer*—Reginald Wilding, Chairman, Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA—

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Victoria.

*Minister*—Honourable George S. Pearson, Minister of Health and Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—E. W. Griffith, Deputy Minister of Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.

*Chief Officer*—J. H. Creighton, Chairman, Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.

#### MANITOBA—

*Department*—Department of Health and Public Welfare, Winnipeg.

*Minister*—Honourable Ivan Schultz, Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—C. R. Donovan, Acting Deputy Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.

*Chief Officer*—L. D. McNeill, Chairman, The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK—

*Department*—Department of Health and Social Services, Fredericton.

*Minister*—Honourable F. A. McGrath, Minister of Health and Social Services.

*Deputy Minister*—J. A. Melanson, Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton.

*Chief Officer*—J. W. Niles, Director of Old Age Pensions, Fredericton.

## NEWFOUNDLAND—

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, St. John's.  
*Minister*—Honourable H. L. Pottle, Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—F. W. Rowe, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, St. John's.  
*Chief Officer*—R. R. Roberts, Chairman, The Old Age Pensions Board, St. John's.

## NOVA SCOTIA—

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Halifax.  
*Minister*—Honourable Alexander H. MacKinnon, Acting Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax.  
*Chief Officer*—H. S. Farquhar, Director of Old Age Pensions, Halifax.

## ONTARIO—

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Toronto.  
*Minister*—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow, Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—B. W. Heise, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.  
*Chief Officer*—S. N. Asbury, Chairman, Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Charlottetown.  
*Minister*—Honourable A. W. Matheson, Minister of Health and Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—P. S. Fielding, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown.  
*Chief Pensions Officer*—O. W. Campbell, Superintendent of Old Age Pensions, Charlottetown.

## QUEBEC—

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare and of Youth, Quebec.  
*Minister*—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauve, Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.  
*Deputy Minister*—Gustave Poisson, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.  
*Pension Authority*—Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.  
*Chief Officer*—J. R. Forest, President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.

## SASKATCHEWAN—

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation, Regina.  
*Minister*—Honourable John H. Sturdy, Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.  
*Deputy Minister*—J. S. White, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.  
*Pension Authority*—Social Welfare Board, Regina.  
*Chief Pensions Officer*—D. E. Chalmers, Director of Old Age Pensions, Regina.

## YUKON TERRITORY—

*Commissioner of the Yukon Territory*—J. E. Gibben, Dawson, Y.T.  
*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pensions Board, Dawson, Y.T.  
*Chief Pensions Officer*—W. A. Wardrop, Territorial Secretary, Dawson, Y.T.

4. *Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act*

The following Resolution was published in Votes and Proceedings of the House of Commons of April 25, 1949:

“Resolved, that it is expedient to bring in a measure to amend the Old Age Pensions Act to increase from \$30 to \$40 the monthly amount of pension to which the Government of Canada will contribute.”

In the House of Commons on April 27, 1949, the Minister of National Health and Welfare moved that the House go into committee to consider the Resolution. Following adoption of the motion, the Minister moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 237 to amend the Old Age Pensions Act. The motion was agreed to and the Bill read the first time. The Minister then moved the second reading of the Bill. Following the second reading, the House went into committee and after a short debate the Bill was reported, read the third time and passed.

In the Senate the Bill was passed on April 28, 1949, and was given Royal Assent on April 30, 1949, as Chapter 19 of the statutes of 1949.

The amending Act contained the following provision:—

Section 2—"This Act shall come into force on a day to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor in Council."

By proclamation published in the *Canada Gazette* of April 30, 1949, the amending Act came into force on May 1, 1949.

Section 1 of Chapter 19 of the statutes of 1949 provides as follows:—

"Sections eight, eight A and thirteen of the Old Age Pensions Act, chapter one hundred and fifty-six of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, as enacted by chapter sixty-seven of the statutes of 1947, are amended by substituting the words 'forty dollars' for the words 'thirty dollars' wherever they appear therein."

#### *Parliamentary Committee on Old Age Security—*

On February 16, 1950, the Minister of National Health and Welfare gave notice of a motion to appoint a Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Old Age Security. The Motion was debated in the House of Commons on March 10th, 16th and 24th and agreed to on March 30th. It was debated in the Senate on March 31st and agreed to the same date.

Under the terms of the Motion the Committee is appointed to examine and study—

The operation and effects of existing legislation of the parliament of Canada and of the several provincial legislatures with respect to old age security;

Similar legislation in other countries;

Possible alternative measures of old age security for Canada, with or without a means test for beneficiaries, including plans based on contributory insurance principles;

The probable cost thereof and possible methods of providing therefor;

The constitutional and financial adjustments, if any, required for the effective operations of such plans and other related matters.

#### *5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations*

The Regulations made under the authority of the Old Age Pensions Act, which were approved by Order in Council P.C. 1860 dated April 29, 1948, were not amended during the fiscal year 1949-50. The Regulations came into force on June 18, 1948, the date on which they were published in the *Canada Gazette*. They were presented to Parliament on June 28, 1948.

## 6. Interprovincial Board

The Old Age Pensions Regulations authorize the Governor in Council to appoint an Interprovincial Board to interpret and recommend alterations in the regulations. The existing Interprovincial Board was established by Order in Council P.C. 1438, dated April 16, 1946.

With the completion of agreements, the Governments of Newfoundland and the Yukon Territory became entitled to representation on the Interprovincial Board. By Order in Council P.C. 5470, dated October 27, 1949, the Honourable H. L. Pottle, Minister of Public Welfare, and Mr. R. R. Roberts, Chairman of The Old Age Pensions Board, were appointed as representatives of the Province of Newfoundland, and Mr. J. E. Gibben, Commissioner of the Yukon Territory, and Mr. W. A. Wardrop, Territorial Secretary of the Yukon Territory, as representatives of the Yukon Territory.

The members of the Interprovincial Board as at March 31, 1950, were:—

For Canada—Honourable Paul Martin,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Dr. George F. Davidson,  
Deputy Minister of Welfare.

For Alberta—Honourable W. W. Cross,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

A. Blackie,  
Superintendent of Old Age Pensions.

For British Columbia—Honourable George S. Pearson,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.

J. H. Creighton,  
Chairman, Old-age Pension Board.

For Manitoba—Honourable Ivan Schultz,  
Minister of Health and Public Welfare.

L. D. McNeill,  
Chairman, The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board.

For New Brunswick—Honourable F. A. McGrand,  
Minister of Health and Social Services.

J. W. Niles,  
Director of Old Age Pensions.

For Newfoundland—Honourable H. L. Pottle,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

R. R. Roberts,  
Chairman, The Old Age Pensions Board.

For Nova Scotia—H. S. Farquhar,  
Director of Old Age Pensions.

For Ontario—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow,  
Minister of Public Welfare.

B. W. Heise,  
Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

For Prince Edward Island—Honourable A. W. Matheson,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.

Otto W. Campbell,  
Superintendent of Old Age Pensions.

For Quebec—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauve,  
Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.

J. R. Forest,  
President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission.

For Saskatchewan—Honourable John H. Sturdy,  
Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.

J. S. White,  
Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and  
Rehabilitation.

For Yukon Territory—J. E. Gibben,  
Commissioner of the Yukon Territory.

W. A. Wardrop,  
Territorial Secretary of the Yukon Territory.

The Interprovincial Board did not meet during the fiscal year 1949-50.

### 7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 1) shows the number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1950, federal contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1950, the total of federal contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1950, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1949.

TABLE 1.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1950

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Act (Federal) operative as from			
								Aug. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1927	Sept. 1, 1928	July 1, 1936
Number of pensioners.....	16,445	28,988	16,868	16,231	10,296	19,966	85,100				
Average monthly pension.....	\$37.90	\$37.17	\$38.44	\$36.22	\$29.47	\$35.41	\$38.06				
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	1.89	2.60	2.17	3.15	2.96	3.10	1.93				
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	4.06	6.02	4.74	4.38	3.82	5.33	5.42				
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	46.45	43.20	45.71	71.82	77.41	58.04	35.59				
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1950 .....	\$1,394,575.92	\$2,419,729.75	\$1,464,594.00	\$1,320,972.60	\$780,872.70	\$1,586,872.02	\$7,392,757.78				
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1949—March 31, 1950 .....	5,182,534.12	9,072,353.74	5,578,655.98	5,083,788.47	2,229,446.41	6,056,998.50	27,863,894.69				
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act.....	39,037,016.61	57,269,439.44	46,870,423.96	31,840,592.74	2,229,446.41	42,029,324.04	223,230,255.24				

TABLE I.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1950—*Conclusion*

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon	Totals	Act (Federal) operative as from			
							July 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1936	May 1, 1928	Jan. 25, 1929
Number of pensioners.....	2,976	69,017	16,566	23		108				282,584
Average monthly pension.....	\$34.36	\$37.73	\$37.30	\$39.71		\$38.65				
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	3.17	1.78	1.92	.19		2.20				
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	6.81	3.42	4.29	1.52		6.67				
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	46.50	51.85	44.89	12.57		32.93				
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1950 .....	\$228,019.79	\$5,938,180.87	\$1,394,407.14	\$2,742.74		\$9,216.25				\$23,922,050.46
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1949—March 31, 1950 .....	865,209.30	22,328,643.76	5,356,265.13	9,898.84		24,484.38				89,652,203.32
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act .....	4,855,471.81	141,666,155.56	45,627,464.00	58,981.25		24,484.38				634,739,055.44

\*Percentages based on estimated population as at June 1, 1949, except Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories which are based on 1941 census.  
 Average monthly pension (Canada) \$37.21.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### *1. Agreements with Provinces*

The original agreements with Newfoundland and the Yukon Territory and the new agreements completed after the Old Age Pensions Act was amended in 1949 provided for the payment of pensions to blind persons as well as to aged persons. The effective dates of the agreements are shown in section 1 of Part A of this report.

### *2. Administration—Federal*

Federal responsibilities for the administration of pensions in respect of blindness are the same as for old age pensions. In addition, however, federal authorities are responsible for the medical examination of applicants claiming to be blind. Medical examinations are made by qualified oculists who furnish reports on which final decisions are made by the medical officer in charge of the Blindness Control Division in the Health Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare. The cost of examinations is paid by the Department. During the fiscal year 1949–50 the total amount paid on account of medical examinations was \$15,750.00. In addition \$2,185.65 was paid as travelling expenses of oculists, mostly in connection with group examinations at specified points.

### *3. Administration—Provincial*

The schemes for the administration of pensions in Newfoundland and the Yukon Territory referred to in section 3 of Part A of this report include the administration of pensions for blind persons. In all provinces the provincial pension authorities appointed to administer old age pensions also administer pensions in respect of blindness.

### *4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Pensions for Blind Persons.*

The amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act in 1949 increased from \$30 to \$40 the monthly amount of pension to which the Government of Canada was authorized to contribute in the case of blind pensioners. The provisions of the amending Act are shown under section 4 of Part A of this report. Section 8A of the Old Age Pensions Act refers specifically to persons applying for pensions in respect of blindness.

### *5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations during the fiscal year 1949–50.

### *6. Interprovincial Board*

The Interprovincial Board did not meet during the fiscal year 1949–50. Consequently no changes were recommended in the regulations affecting pensions for blind persons.

7. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons*

The following table (Table 2) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1949-50, also the amount of federal contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1950, for the fiscal year 1949-50, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1950.—

TABLE 2—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1950

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia
	Mar. 7, 1938	Dec. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	April 1, 1949	Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	453	629	539	1,047	171	962
Average monthly pension .....	\$38.68	\$38.17	\$39.29	\$39.06	\$29.38	\$38.44
*Percentages of pensioners to total population.....	.052	.056	.069	.203	.049	.149
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1950.....	\$39,881.87	\$52,777.60	\$50,205.45	\$92,637.78	\$16,507.30	\$82,699.69
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1949—March 31, 1950.....	148,295.29	204,086.42	184,497.01	337,877.50	35,682.30	311,947.90
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	716,852.14	1,005,638.49	994,602.99	2,047,991.90	35,682.30	1,755,889.37

TABLE 2.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1950—  
*Concluded*

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon	Totals
	Act (Federal) operative as from						
	Sept. 1, 1937	Dec. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1937	Nov. 15, 1937	March 30, 1938	April 1, 1949	
Number of pensioners.....	2,243	129	3,869	472	1	2	10,517
Average monthly pension.....	\$38.88	\$37.66	\$39.07	\$38.91	\$40.00	\$40.00	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population....	.051	.137	.100	.055	.008	.041	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1950.....	\$202,924.62	\$10,795.32	\$351,262.82	\$41,911.91	\$150.00	\$180.00	\$941,934.36
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1949—March 31, 1950.....	778,909.71	40,336.10	1,312,410.08	161,883.66	585.00	240.00	3,536,730.97
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	4,367,169.02	257,296.21	6,905,809.43	936,132.55	1,580.00	240.00	19,024,864.40

\*Percentages based on estimated population as at June 1, 1949, except Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories which are based on 1941 census.  
Average monthly pension (Canada) \$38.73.

## C.—STATISTICS

## RECAPITULATION 1949-50 AND COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS

TABLE 3.—RECAPITULATION—1949-50

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1950

Province	Number of pensioners		Total	Federal contributions since inception of the Act				Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age		Blind				
				\$	cts.	\$	cts.			
Alberta.....	16,445	453	16,898	39,037	016	61	716,852	14	39,753,868	75
British Columbia.....	28,988	629	29,617	57,269	439	44	1,005,638	49	58,275,077	93
Manitoba.....	16,868	539	17,407	48,870	423	96	994,602	99	47,865,026	95
New Brunswick.....	16,231	1,047	17,278	31,840	592	74	2,047,991	90	33,888,584	64
Newfoundland.....	10,296	171	10,467	2,229	446	41	35,662	30	2,265,108	71
Nova Scotia.....	19,966	962	20,928	42,029	324	04	1,755,889	37	43,785,213	41
Ontario.....	85,100	2,243	87,343	223,230	255	24	4,367,169	02	227,597,424	26
Prince Edward Island.....	2,976	129	3,105	4,855	471	81	257,296	21	5,112,768	02
Quebec.....	69,017	3,869	72,886	141,666	155	56	6,905,809	43	148,571,964	99
Saskatchewan.....	16,566	472	17,038	45,627	464	00	936,132	55	46,503,596	55
Northwest Territories.....	23	1	24	58,981	25		1,580	00	60,561	25
Yukon Territory.....	108	2	110	24,484	38		240	00	24,724	38
	282,584	10,517	293,101	634,739	055	44	19,024,864	40	653,763,919	84

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1948-49 and 1949-50

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1949	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1950	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Federal contributions fiscal year 1948-49	Federal contributions fiscal year 1949-50	Net increase in amount of Federal contributions	Average monthly pension							
							\$	cts.						
Alberta.....	14,988	16,445	1,457	3,840,154	69	5,182,534	12	1,342,379	43	29	49	37	90	
British Columbia.....	25,633	28,988	3,355	6,363,538	43	9,072,353	74	2,708	81	31	29	19	37	17
Manitoba.....	16,110	16,868	758	4,127,098	07	5,576,451	98	1,451,557	91	29	61	38	44	
New Brunswick.....	15,412	16,231	819	3,960,422	20	5,083,788	47	1,123,366	27	29	12	36	22	
Newfoundland.....	10,296	10,296	0	2,229,416	41	2,229,446	41	0	0	0	0	29	47	
Nova Scotia.....	18,450	19,066	516	4,658,579	65	6,056,998	50	1,398,418	85	28	96	35	41	
Ontario.....	78,413	85,100	6,687	20,292,451	32	27,863,944	69	7,571,443	37	29	50	38	06	
Prince Edward Island.....	2,688	2,976	288	583,070	14	865,299	30	272,229	16	26	36	34	36	
Quebec.....	64,866	69,017	4,651	18,273,942	16	22,328,643	76	6,054,701	60	28	94	37	73	
Saskatchewan.....	15,785	16,566	781	4,115,200	48	5,356,205	13	1,240,914	65	29	19	37	30	
Northwest Territories.....	20	23	3	7,663	78	9,898	84	2,235	06	28	75	39	71	
Yukon Territory.....	.....	108	108	.....	.....	24,484	38	24,484	38	0	0	38	65	
	251,865	282,584	30,719	64,232,210	92	89,652,203	32	25,419,992	40	0	0	0	0	

TABLE 5.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1948-49 AND 1949-50

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1949	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1950	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Federal contributions fiscal year 1948-49	Federal contributions fiscal year 1949-50	Net increase in amount of Federal contributions	Average monthly pension						
							\$	cts.					
Alberta.....	418	453	35	104,681	19	148,295	29	42,614	10	29	84	38	68
British Columbia.....	580	629	49	146,888	15	203,086	42	57,198	27	29	15	48	17
Manitoba.....	503	539	36	134,299	87	184,497	01	50,197	14	29	68	39	29
New Brunswick.....	1,000	1,047	47	263,020	56	357,877	50	94,856	94	29	66	39	06
Newfoundland.....	171	171	0	.....	.....	35,662	30	35,662	30	0	0	29	38
Nova Scotia.....	878	962	84	224,176	11	311,947	90	87,389	09	29	62	38	44
Ontario.....	2,070	2,243	173	564,315	33	778,909	71	214,594	38	29	63	38	88
Prince Edward Island.....	122	129	7	30,928	72	40,336	10	9,407	38	28	65	37	66
Quebec.....	3,544	3,869	325	939,092	14	1,312,110	08	374,107	94	29	69	39	07
Saskatchewan.....	451	472	21	194,068	34	161,883	66	37,815	32	29	69	38	91
Northwest Territories.....	1	1	0	360	90	585	00	195	00	30	00	40	00
Yukon Territory.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	240	00	240	00	0	0	40	00
	9,567	10,517	950	2,532,074	11	3,536,730	97	1,004,656	86	0	0	0	0

## RECAPITULATION OF FEDERAL PAYMENTS FROM INCEPTION OF ACT

TABLE 6.—OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Number of pensioners at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1949-50 and amounts paid in each fiscal year by Federal Government

Fiscal Year	Number of Pensioners			Federal Payments					
	Old Age	Blind	Total	Old Age	Blind	Total			
				\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
1927-28.....	2,712	—	2,712	131,452	01	—	—	131,452	01
1928-29.....	10,588	—	10,588	832,686	78	—	—	832,686	78
1929-30.....	42,553	—	42,553	1,537,173	55	—	—	1,537,173	55
1930-31.....	57,930	—	57,930	5,658,142	52	—	—	5,658,142	52
1931-32.....	67,006	—	67,006	10,032,409	87	—	—	10,032,409	87
1932-33.....	71,705	—	71,705	11,512,542	73	—	—	11,512,542	73
1933-34.....	86,873	—	86,873	12,313,594	93	—	—	12,313,594	93
1934-35.....	101,051	—	101,051	14,942,459	36	—	—	14,942,459	36
1935-36.....	108,415	—	108,415	16,764,483	87	—	—	16,764,483	87
1936-37.....	146,524	—	146,524	21,149,351	52	—	—	21,149,351	52
1937-38.....	175,673	1,946	177,619	28,524,587	23	128,418	25	28,653,005	48
1938-39.....	181,514	4,512	186,026	28,283,284	11	760,354	42	29,043,638	53
1939-40.....	186,035	5,404	191,439	29,080,630	90	895,923	09	29,976,553	99
1940-41.....	185,946	5,913	191,859	28,901,932	75	1,009,766	93	29,911,699	68
1941-42.....	185,922	6,243	192,165	28,530,907	52	1,080,888	63	29,611,796	15
1942-43.....	183,601	6,374	189,975	28,861,185	55	1,114,828	30	29,976,013	85
1943-44.....	181,384	6,374	187,758	32,195,592	11	1,244,030	13	33,429,622	24
1944-45.....	187,512	6,663	194,175	39,503,027	55	1,471,977	97	40,975,005	52
1945-46.....	196,941	6,945	203,886	41,291,227	09	1,526,747	01	42,817,974	10
1946-47.....	209,029	7,311	216,340	43,829,579	98	1,615,135	59	45,444,715	57
1947-48.....	229,158	8,476	237,634	56,978,389	27	2,107,989	00	59,056,378	27
1948-49.....	251,865	9,567	261,432	64,232,210	92	2,532,074	11	66,764,285	03
1949-50.....	282,584	10,517	293,101	89,652,203	32	3,536,730	97	93,188,934	29

TABLE 7.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1949-50

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	North-West Territories	Yukon Territory
1927-28.....		2,712									2,768	
1928-29.....		3,867	3,953								4,482	4
1929-30.....	2,017	4,576	5,104				26,370				5,913	5
1930-31.....	3,287	5,557	5,834				37,334				7,643	5
1931-32.....	4,382	6,486	7,190				41,300				8,195	5
1932-33.....	5,244	7,128	8,280				42,853				9,203	5
1933-34.....	6,286	8,095	9,236			6,509	46,281	1,258			10,137	7
1934-35.....	7,151	9,076	10,229			12,241	50,771	1,439			10,706	7
1935-36.....	8,086	10,011	10,862			13,044	54,040	1,659			11,436	8
1936-37.....	9,100	10,824	11,559	9,803		13,456	55,950	1,768	22,620		11,775	9
1937-38.....	9,726	11,563	11,800	11,142		13,827	57,530	1,811	46,490		12,227	7
1938-39.....	10,175	12,504	12,128	11,554		14,221	58,858	1,881	47,939		12,567	7
1939-40.....	10,677	13,386	12,560	11,815		14,502	59,717	2,007	48,797		13,111	8
1940-41.....	10,746	13,942	12,727	11,747		14,454	59,224	1,987	48,000		13,211	8
1941-42.....	10,952	14,464	12,701	11,779		14,285	59,232	1,952	47,338		13,074	8
1942-43.....	11,134	14,348	12,498	11,818		14,080	57,692	1,904	47,045		12,755	11
1943-44.....	11,071	14,481	12,188	11,843		13,838	56,156	1,888	47,153		12,827	12
1944-45.....	11,418	15,344	12,324	12,269		14,032	58,113	1,884	49,289		13,398	15
1945-46.....	12,098	16,637	12,981	12,663		14,771	60,831	1,980	51,567		14,204	16
1946-47.....	12,735	18,039	13,583	13,360		15,403	65,085	2,112	54,489		14,806	19
1947-48.....	13,792	21,621	15,026	14,524		16,984	70,765	2,417	59,204		15,785	20
1948-49.....	14,988	25,633	16,110	15,412		18,450	73,413	2,688	64,366		16,566	23
1949-50.....	16,445	28,988	18,388	16,231	10,296	19,966	85,100	2,976	69,017		108	

TABLE 8.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years  
1937-38 to 1949-50

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	North-West Territories	Yukon Territory
1937-38.....		76	98	114	.....	171	683	41	710	53	.....	.....
1938-39.....	146	232	206	510	.....	493	1,154	104	1,453	214	.....	.....
1939-40.....	183	290	268	652	.....	573	1,333	115	1,741	249	.....	.....
1940-41.....	197	301	307	704	.....	610	1,448	116	1,917	283	.....	.....
1941-42.....	215	327	327	740	.....	620	1,506	115	2,079	314	.....	.....
1942-43.....	239	334	348	722	.....	620	1,502	116	2,173	320	.....	.....
1943-44.....	242	323	339	710	.....	633	1,449	111	2,250	317	.....	.....
1944-45.....	247	336	348	736	.....	640	1,488	110	2,425	333	.....	.....
1945-46.....	269	340	365	737	.....	664	1,543	119	2,568	340	.....	.....
1946-47.....	290	370	391	758	.....	685	1,623	121	2,709	363	1	.....
1947-48.....	332	400	455	896	.....	805	1,814	126	3,178	409	1	.....
1948-49.....	418	580	503	1,000	.....	875	2,070	122	3,544	451	1	.....
1949-50.....	453	629	539	1,047	171	962	2,243	129	3,869	472	1	2

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1927-28 to 1949-50

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1927-28		131,452 01									191,041 97
1928-29		399,340 95	242,363 86								557 74
1929-30	62,555 15	357,801 04	427,143 44								1,387 06
1930-31	320,343 50	580,841 45	652,863 80								1,467 71
1931-32	645,367 48	1,032,840 50	1,282,222 34								1,419,746 68
1932-33	827,830 32	1,176,242 75	1,362,187 75								1,328,057 36
1933-34	934,237 91	1,304,144 06	1,516,372 06								1,455,195 06
1934-35	1,070,901 17	1,478,313 72	1,655,945 40								1,719,341 66
1935-36	1,224,104 53	1,672,830 72	1,797,144 85								1,655,841 54
1936-37	1,409,059 79	1,823,267 82	1,922,415 33	868,308 30							1,722,574 00
1937-38	1,580,571 47	1,945,951 01	2,033,673 27	1,333,673 27							1,714,556 87
1938-39	1,687,567 24	2,071,080 36	1,997,107 90	1,992,400 38	1,440,354 10						1,898,911 84
1939-40	1,737,003 48	2,220,133 70	1,992,400 38	1,992,400 38	1,440,354 10						1,764,411 50
1940-41	1,778,022 53	2,331,331 44	2,106,888 53	1,551,711 34	1,941,171 82						1,678,061 50
1941-42	1,797,032 27	2,463,312 70	2,087,719 03	1,559,883 05	1,936,521 62	9,772,690 43					1,895,681 66
1942-43	1,833,573 90	2,443,132 70	2,093,379 84	1,606,402 93	1,948,074 78	9,633,655 18	2,043,409 91				2,060,661 66
1943-44	2,062,796 03	2,791,031 33	2,092,573 38	1,732,670 48	2,137,241 68	10,310,621 89	2,352,406 79				2,372,681 68
1944-45	2,401,368 15	2,326,038 65	2,879,947 97	2,390,977 80	2,807,890 33	12,291,117 43	2,794,932 96				3,073,801 68
1945-46	2,526,114 64	3,445,885 07	2,684,085 21	2,498,871 32	2,913,972 32	13,129,815 51	3,222,449 55				3,579,070 67
1946-47	2,699,425 03	2,826,747 15	2,649,019 60	3,093,234 05	3,836,363 96	11,466,940 27	3,088,808 13				4,322,081 66
1947-48	3,466,114 21	5,171,017 31	3,727,392 10	3,634,250 45	3,943,368 30	17,999,870 26	4,78,921 19				5,830,751 65
1948-49	3,840,164 69	6,363,558 43	4,127,098 20	3,900,422 20	4,658,579 05	20,292,451 32	6,115,290 48				7,663,781 65
1949-50	5,182,534 12	9,072,333 74	5,578,655 98	5,083,788 47	6,056,998 50	2,229,446 41	5,356,205 13				9,898,841 38

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1937-38 to 1949-50

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory	
												\$	cts.
1937-38	3,025.41	6,412.39	8,933.93	11,984.87	38,535.29	660.12	57,028.48	1,777.76	...	...	...	...	...
1938-39	19,289.81	37,323.55	33,506.77	86,516.77	74,418.04	199,162.73	10,518.23	263,451.94	36,166.98	...	...	...	...
1939-40	30,084.83	46,626.94	42,471.01	108,624.41	91,291.80	225,446.58	13,207.31	294,276.96	43,943.25	...	...	...	...
1940-41	33,607.58	50,564.46	51,033.74	121,246.70	102,375.34	248,975.03	14,337.93	336,873.46	50,732.69	...	...	...	...
1941-42	36,780.14	55,183.66	56,228.04	128,292.16	105,970.09	284,066.67	14,071.95	365,525.63	54,850.39	...	...	...	...
1942-43	40,988.59	58,363.31	59,752.81	129,585.11	107,386.52	266,354.07	15,249.06	379,129.26	58,029.54	...	...	...	...
1943-44	47,914.22	65,825.76	60,199.34	136,447.20	114,042.77	283,956.32	19,545.00	452,061.25	64,035.18	...	...	...	...
1944-45	54,289.17	73,302.49	63,129.83	161,588.00	140,039.16	331,210.53	22,011.81	530,168.53	74,238.68	...	...	...	...
1945-46	75,441.39	79,472.92	161,978.47	142,671.86	341,573.54	22,734.94	568,427.51	76,835.99	...	...	...	...	...
1946-47	62,155.43	80,435.16	86,624.73	166,413.70	147,485.80	359,850.91	24,211.44	605,760.62	81,938.78	250.00	...	...	...
1947-48	81,255.50	108,588.79	114,974.51	217,407.30	181,815.41	404,368.94	29,423.60	801,694.04	107,611.31	355.00	...	...	...
1948-49	104,681.19	146,888.15	134,289.87	265,020.66	224,479.81	504,315.35	30,928.72	124,068.34	124,068.34	380.00	...	...	...
1949-50	148,286.29	204,086.42	184,497.01	357,877.50	35,602.30	778,909.71	40,336.10	1,312,410.06	161,883.66	585.00	240.00	...	...

PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL DATA FURNISHED BY THE PROVINCIAL  
PENSION AUTHORITIES

A—OLD AGE

PENSIONS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1949-50

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Total.....	2,943	5,710	2,599	2,378	7,912	3,440	15,696	563	11,593	2,432	121	55,387
Male.....	1,651	3,065	1,349	1,181	3,316	1,667	6,998	265	5,639	1,317	112	26,560
Female.....	1,292	2,645	1,250	1,197	4,596	1,773	8,698	298	5,954	1,115	9	28,827
Married.....	1,401	2,655	1,306	1,194	3,795	1,536	6,537	251	5,597	1,223	12	25,507
Single.....	322	655	274	247	303	414	1,882	69	1,021	251	79	5,517
Widower.....	386	643	327	257	987	409	1,816	68	1,619	297	13	6,822
Widow.....	673	1,243	625	627	2,790	961	4,755	161	3,027	532	7	15,401
Separated.....	138	454	63	52	37	109	688	14	329	125	9	2,018
Divorced.....	23	60	4	1	.....	11	18	.....	.....	4	1	122
Age 70.....	1,514	2,176	1,380	1,486	1,097	1,539	5,924	212	6,477	1,171	12	22,988
71-5.....	956	2,329	812	543	4,240	1,074	5,758	172	3,067	939	37	19,927
76-80.....	306	821	243	220	1,607	469	2,462	74	1,258	244	32	7,736
Over 80.....	167	384	164	129	968	358	1,552	105	791	78	40	4,736
In cities.....	1,142	3,211	1,179	462	970	397	7,801	74	4,948	583	59	20,826
In towns.....	433	1,022	267	345	1,275	845	3,216	58	1,191	824	16	9,492
In villages.....	460	559	504	195	5,666	1,132	3,259	64	5,163	362	43	17,407
On Farms.....	908	918	649	1,376	1	1,066	1,420	367	291	663	3	7,662
Own homes.....	1,217	2,453	854	1,238	4,587	2,065	6,213	349	1,931	1,191	59	22,157
Rented houses or apts.....	296	970	551	253	244	134	2,629	39	2,626	433	17	8,192
Children-relatives.....	810	1,153	827	543	3,060	755	3,821	132	4,997	543	16	16,657
Rented rooms.....	483	998	290	310	1	444	2,594	35	1,563	236	6	6,960
Public institutions.....	69	97	24	11	1	25	288	5	.....	9	.....	529
Private institutions.....	68	39	53	23	19	17	151	3	476	20	23	892

APPLICATIONS DECLINED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1949-50

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Not 70.....	97	84	124	60	114	124	412	29	167	166	2	1,379
2. Unable to prove age.....	6	49	3	7	5	2	26	.....	12	17	.....	127
3. Too much income.....	96	131	44	215	110	190	240	60	370	163	8	1,627
4. Not sufficient residence.....	15	6	4	5	4	11	21	3	18	13	.....	100
5. Unable to prove residence.....	6	1	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	5	7	.....	22
6. Transferred property.....	28	27	39	4	.....	1	51	24	72	73	.....	319
7. War Veterans allowance.....	4	2	.....	22	.....	6	15	13	9	6	2	79
8. Pension for blind.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	1	1	.....	.....	14
9. An Indian.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	4	.....	.....	6
10. Refused information.....	24	3	10	8	.....	4	293	.....	31	28	.....	401
11. Assistance private source.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	1	62	3	.....	5	.....	76
12. In mental hospital.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	3	30	1	5	4	1	47
13. Entitled to support.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	55	1	.....	.....	.....	68

APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Withdrawn.....	32	112	16	4	14	31	365	16	107	76	.....	773
2. Died before grant.....	35	67	36	20	6	21	316	3	112	42	.....	658

## B.—BLIND

## PENSIONS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1949-50

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Total.....	59	92	77	117	166	148	349	18	570	62	2	1,660
Male.....	25	42	41	58	104	80	202	10	307	36	1	906
Female.....	34	50	36	59	62	68	147	8	263	26	1	754
Married.....	29	44	34	53	63	71	146	11	256	30	—	737
Single.....	15	21	19	40	77	49	99	5	210	20	1	556
Widower.....	2	3	6	2	10	10	24	—	25	3	—	85
Widow.....	11	15	11	15	13	12	51	1	62	6	—	197
Separated.....	2	8	7	7	3	6	26	1	17	3	—	80
Divorced.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	5
Age 21.....	2	3	2	3	4	11	7	—	28	—	—	60
22-30.....	3	4	5	14	20	26	36	—	57	7	—	172
31-40.....	4	9	3	16	20	22	28	1	73	15	1	192
41-50.....	6	13	12	21	39	15	39	2	96	10	1	254
51-60.....	10	11	13	22	32	21	65	6	103	6	—	289
61-70.....	26	39	35	32	42	44	119	5	187	16	—	545
71-80.....	7	8	6	9	6	6	41	3	20	6	—	112
Over 80.....	1	5	1	—	3	3	14	1	6	2	—	36
In cities.....	30	48	37	17	52	12	200	3	237	13	1	650
In towns.....	10	21	4	14	25	41	47	3	58	16	—	239
In villages.....	13	9	22	8	80	60	68	3	243	1	1	517
On farms.....	6	14	14	78	—	35	34	9	32	32	—	254
Own homes.....	24	37	21	58	76	67	166	13	133	35	1	631
Rented houses or apts.....	7	18	15	19	8	5	43	1	113	10	1	240
Children-relatives.....	13	18	29	12	65	14	60	1	87	8	—	307
Rented rooms.....	9	18	9	23	3	56	70	1	205	6	—	400
Public institutions.....	2	1	1	3	4	4	8	—	—	1	—	24
Private institutions.....	4	—	2	2	10	2	2	2	32	2	—	58

## APPLICATIONS DECLINED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1949-50

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Not 21.....	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	7	—	11	1	23
2. Unable to prove age.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
3. Too much income.....	4	4	2	10	19	14	9	—	45	3	—	110
4. Not sufficient residence.....	—	—	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	8
5. Unable to prove residence.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
6. Transferred property.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
7. War Veterans allowance.....	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	—	—	6	6
8. An Indian.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
9. Refused information.....	5	—	—	18	—	—	2	—	6	4	—	35
10. Assistance private source.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	5
11. In mental hospital.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	1	—	8
12. Entitled to support.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
13. Unable to meet blind test.....	15	11	20	212	18	61	23	3	470	18	—	851

## APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Withdrawn.....	—	—	1	3	—	—	3	13	—	10	2	32
2. Died before grant.....	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	9	—	15



*Doc*

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, CANADA

Report on the  
Administration of Old Age Pensions  
and Pensions for Blind Persons  
in Canada

*Under the Provisions of the  
Old Age Pensions Act  
Chapter 156, Revised Statutes  
of Canada, 1927*

*As Amended by*  
21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)  
1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)  
11 George VI, Chapter 67 (1947)  
13 George VI, Chapter 19 (1949)

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1951

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.  
KING'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY  
1951



*To His Excellency Field Marshal the Right Honourable Viscount Alexander of Tunis, K.G. G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., D.C.L., LL.D., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1951, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PAUL MARTIN,  
*Minister of National Health and Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1951.

The Honourable PAUL MARTIN,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1951, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,  
*Deputy Minister of Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1951.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Agreements with Provinces.....	5
2. Administration—Federal.....	6
3. Administration—Provincial.....	6
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	7
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	8
6. Interprovincial Board.....	8
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	10

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Agreements with Provinces.....	12
2. Administration—Federal.....	12
3. Administration—Provincial.....	12
4. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons.....	12
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons.....	12
6. Interprovincial Board.....	12
7. Financial and Statistical Summary.....	13

### C. STATISTICS

Recapitulation 1950-51 and Comparative Statements.....	15
Recapitulation of Federal Payments from inception of Act.....	16
Recapitulation of Provincial Statistical data.....	20

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1950-51

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces*

The agreements made by the Government of Canada with the ten provinces and the Yukon Territory prior to April 1, 1950, continued in force during the fiscal year April 1, 1950 to March 31, 1951. The Order in Council approving the scheme for the administration and payment of pensions in the Northwest Territories also remained unchanged.

By the terms of the agreements and the Order in Council the maximum pension payable was \$40 a month. This was the maximum amount of pension payable in all provinces during the fiscal year (including Newfoundland from April 1, 1950). The amounts of maximum income, including pension, allowed by the agreements were, in all cases, the amounts specified in the Old Age Pensions Act.

Under the provisions of the Act and of the agreements the maximum pension of \$480 a year was subject to reduction as follows—

In the case of

- (1) an unmarried sighted person by the amount of any income received by such person in excess of \$120 a year;
- (2) a sighted person married to and living with a sighted spouse in receipt of pension, by one-half the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$120 a year;
- (3) a sighted person married to and living with a sighted spouse not in receipt of pension, by the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$600 a year;
- (4) a sighted person married to and living with a blind spouse in receipt of pension, by one-half the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$240 a year;
- (5) a sighted person married to and living with a blind spouse not in receipt of pension, by the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$720 a year;
- (6) an unmarried blind person without a dependent child or children, by the amount of any income received by such person in excess of \$240 a year;
- (7) an unmarried blind person with a dependent child or children, by the amount of any income received by such person in excess of \$440 a year;
- (8) a blind person married to and living with a sighted spouse in receipt of pension, by one-half the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$240 a year;
- (9) a blind person married to and living with a sighted spouse not in receipt of pension, by the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$720 a year;

- (10) a blind person married to and living with a blind spouse in receipt of pension, by one-half the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$360 a year; and
- (11) a blind person married to and living with a blind spouse not in receipt of pension, by the amount of any income received by such person and his spouse in excess of \$840 a year.

## **2. Administration—Federal**

Federal administration involves general supervision of the plan and co-operation with the provinces in dealing with applications for pension. Applications for pension approved by the various pension authorities are reviewed periodically by examiners employed by the Old Age Pensions Division in the Welfare Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare. The Division also maintains a continuous examination of provincial accounts submitted monthly and paid quarterly.

Through its contacts with provincial administrative officials who deal directly with pensioners and applicants for pension the Division obtains valuable information for the use of the Interprovincial Board appointed under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act to interpret and recommend alterations in the Regulations made under the Act. As far as possible the Division endeavours to maintain reasonable uniformity in the application of the numerous rules set forth in the Regulations.

In the Northwest Territories the Old Age Pensions Division deals directly with both applicants and pensioners. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police investigate all claims for pension in the Northwest Territories and make periodic visits to persons receiving pensions.

## **3. Administration—Provincial**

While there were a few minor amendments during the fiscal year 1950-51 to certain provincial Acts dealing with or related to old age pensions there were no changes in provincial legislation which altered the plans for the administration of pensions approved by the Governor in Council prior to April 1, 1950.

Among other things a provincial scheme for the administration of pensions deals with the appointment of the pension authority defined by the Old Age Pensions Act as "the officer or body charged by law with the consideration of applications for pension or with the payment of pensions". The following list shows the name of the pension authority in each province and also the names of senior provincial officials in charge of the provincial administration of pensions—

### **ALBERTA—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Edmonton.  
*Minister*—Honourable W. W. Cross, Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—A. H. Miller, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.  
*Chief Officer*—Reginald Wilding, Chairman, Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton.

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Victoria.  
*Minister*—Honourable A. D. Turnbull, Minister of Health and Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—E. W. Griffith, Deputy Minister of Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.  
*Chief Officer*—J. H. Creighton, Chairman, Old-age Pension Board, Vancouver.

### **MANITOBA—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Public Welfare, Winnipeg.  
*Minister*—Honourable Ivan Schultz, Minister of Health and Public Welfare.  
*Deputy Minister*—C. R. Donovan, Acting Deputy Minister of Health and Public Welfare.  
*Pension Authority*—The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.  
*Chief Officer*—L. D. McNeill, Chairman, The Old Age and Blind Persons' Pensions Board, Winnipeg.

**NEW BRUNSWICK—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Social Services, Fredericton.

*Minister*—Honourable F. A. McGrand, Minister of Health and Social Services.

*Chief Medical Officer*—J. A. Melanson, Department of Health and Social Services.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Fredericton.

*Chief Officer*—J. E. Anderson, Director of Old Age Pensions, Fredericton.

**NEWFOUNDLAND—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, St. John's.

*Minister*—Honourable H. L. Pottle, Minister of Public Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—F. W. Rowe, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, St. John's.

*Chief Officer*—R. R. Roberts, Chairman, The Old Age Pensions Board, St. John's.

**NOVA SCOTIA—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Halifax.

*Minister*—Honourable Harold Connolly, Minister of Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—The Old Age Pensions Board, Halifax.

*Chief Officer*—H. S. Farquhar, Director of Old Age Pensions, Halifax.

**ONTARIO—**

*Department*—Department of Public Welfare, Toronto.

*Minister*—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow, Minister of Public Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—B. W. Heise, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.

*Chief Officer*—S. N. Asbury, Chairman, Ontario Old Age Pensions Commission, Toronto.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—**

*Department*—Department of Health and Welfare, Charlottetown.

*Minister*—Honourable A. W. Matheson, Minister of Health and Welfare.

*Deputy Minister*—P. S. Fielding, Deputy Minister of Health and Welfare.

*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pension Commission, Charlottetown.

*Chief Pensions Officer*—O. W. Campbell, Superintendent of Old Age Pensions, Charlottetown.

**QUEBEC—**

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare and of Youth, Quebec.

*Minister*—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauve, Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.

*Deputy Minister*—Gustave Poisson, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.

*Pension Authority*—Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.

*Chief Officer*—J. R. Forest, President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission, Quebec.

**SASKATCHEWAN—**

*Department*—Department of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation, Regina.

*Minister*—Honourable John H. Sturdy, Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.

*Deputy Minister*—J. S. White, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.

*Pension Authority*—Social Welfare Board, Regina.

*Chief Pensions Officer*—D. E. Chalmers, Director of Public Assistance, Regina.

**YUKON TERRITORY—**

*Commissioner of the Yukon Territory*—A. H. Gibson, Dawson, Y.T.

*Pension Authority*—Old Age Pensions Board, Dawson, Y.T.

*Chief Pensions Officer*—W. A. Wardrop, Territorial Secretary, Dawson, Y.T.

**4. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act**

There were no amendments to the Act during the fiscal year 1950-51.

**Parliamentary Committee on Old Age Security**

Immediately prior to the beginning of the fiscal year 1950-51 a Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Old Age Security was appointed to examine and study—

The operation and effects of existing legislation of the parliament of Canada and of the several provincial legislatures with respect to old age security;

Similar legislation in other countries;

Possible alternative measures of old age security for Canada, with or without a means test for beneficiaries, including plans based on contributory insurance principles;

The probable cost thereof and possible methods of providing therefor;

The constitutional and financial adjustments, if any, required for the effective operations of such plans and other related matters.

The Committee met during the first three months of the fiscal year after which it presented its report to Parliament. The Committee's recommendation is contained in paragraph 51 of the report which reads as follows—

"All things considered, therefore, the Committee is of the opinion that the most suitable old age security plan for Canada under present circumstances consists of a two-fold program, as follows:

- (a) A universal pay-as-you-go program applicable to all persons 70 years of age and over, based on the contributory principle and administered by the federal government. The benefit should be a flat, uniform amount of \$40 a month for all eligible persons, and eligibility should be based solely on age and a suitable residence qualification.
- (b) For the age group 65 and over not eligible for the universal benefit, old age assistance at the rate of \$40 a month should be available, subject to an eligibility test in some respects similar to that which exists under the present old age assistance program, but modified to take account of the different characteristics of the age group to which this test is to apply, and adjusted in such a way as to recognize to a greater extent than at present the desirability of encouraging recipients to earn supplemental income."

Later in the fiscal year the matter of amending the British North America Act to permit implementation of the Committee's recommendation was considered at a Federal—Provincial conference. Agreement on the amendment had not been reached at the close of the fiscal year.

##### *5. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations during the fiscal year 1950-51.

##### *6. Interprovincial Board*

By Order in Council P.C. 1438, dated April 16, 1946, an Interprovincial Board was appointed under the authority of the Old Age Pensions Act to interpret and recommend alterations in the regulations made under the Act. Due to numerous changes in the membership of the Board a new Order in Council, P.C. 1250 dated March 15, 1951, was passed revoking P.C. 1438, dated April 16, 1946, and five amending Orders in Council.

At the close of the fiscal year 1950-51 the members of the Interprovincial Board were as follows—

For Canada—Honourable Paul Martin,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.  
Dr. George F. Davidson,  
Deputy Minister of Welfare.

For Alberta—Honourable W. W. Cross,  
Minister of Public Welfare.  
W. P. Bullock,  
Superintendent of Old Age Pensions.

For British Columbia—Honourable A. D. Turnbull,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.  
J. H. Creighton,  
Chairman, Old-age Pension Board.

For Manitoba—Honourable Ivan Schultz,  
Minister of Health and Public Welfare.  
L. D. McNeill,  
Chairman, The Old Age and Blind Persons'  
Pensions Board.

For New Brunswick—Honourable F. A. McGrath,  
Minister of Health and Social Services.  
J. E. Anderson,  
Director of Old Age Pensions.

For Newfoundland—Honourable H. L. Pottle,  
Minister of Public Welfare.  
R. R. Roberts,  
Chairman, The Old Age Pensions Board.

For Nova Scotia—Honourable Harold Connolly,  
Minister of Public Welfare.  
H. S. Farquhar,  
Director of Old Age Pensions.

For Ontario—Honourable W. A. Goodfellow,  
Minister of Public Welfare.  
B. W. Heise,  
Deputy Minister of Public Welfare.

For Prince Edward Island—Honourable A. W. Matheson,  
Minister of Health and Welfare.  
Otto W. Campbell,  
Superintendent of Old Age Pensions.

For Quebec—Honourable J. M. Paul Sauve,  
Minister of Social Welfare and of Youth.  
J. R. Forest,  
President, Quebec Old Age Pensions Commission.

For Saskatchewan—Honourable John H. Sturdy,  
Minister of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation.  
J. S. White,  
Deputy Minister of Social Welfare and  
Rehabilitation.

For Yukon Territory—A. H. Gibson,  
Commissioner of the Yukon Territory.  
W. A. Wardrop,  
Territorial Secretary of the Yukon Territory.

The Interprovincial Board did not meet during the fiscal year 1950-51.

*7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions*

The following table (Table 1) shows the number of persons receiving old age pensions as at March 31, 1951, federal contributions to each province for the quarter January 1 to March 31, 1951, the total of federal contributions to each province for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1951, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1950.

TABLE I.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1951

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Act (Federal) operative as from
Aug. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1927	Sept. 1, 1928	July 1, 1936	April 1, 1949	March 1, 1934			Nov. 1, 1929
17,990	31,983	17,573	16,681	11,394	20,808			91,509
\$37.63	\$36.95	\$38.34	\$36.48	\$38.01	\$35.65			\$37.79
2.01	2.81	2.21	3.20	3.21	3.16			2.03
*Percentage of pensioners 70 years of age or over to total population.....	4.23	6.29	4.91	4.46	3.89	5.33		5.54
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	47.47	44.67	45.06	71.59	82.57	59.28		36.59
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1951.....	\$1,510,386.90	\$2,634,011.62	\$1,512,213.60	\$1,369,335.55	\$1,003,650.56	\$1,664,983.62		\$7,643,766.45
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1950—March 31, 1951.....	5,876,261.07	10,252,116.30	5,984,845.37	5,427,021.19	3,819,074.12	6,572,266.69		30,065,393.84
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act.....	44,913,277.68	67,521,555.74	52,855,269.33	37,267,613.93	6,048,520.53	48,601,390.73		253,295,649.08

TABLE I.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1951—*Continued*

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory	Totals
	July 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1936	May 1, 1928	Jan. 25, 1929	April 1, 1949	
Number of pensioners.....	3,136	73,564	17,409	26	100	302,173
Average monthly pension.....	\$34.38	\$37.71	\$37.51	\$39.55	\$38.53	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	3.27	1.85	1.99	.22	2.04	
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	6.46	3.48	4.52	1.52	6.67	
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	50.58	53.15	44.07	14.21	30.49	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1951	\$238,474.86	\$6,293,219.56	\$1,484,135.27	\$3,134.79	\$8,900.30	\$25,366,213.11
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1950—March 31, 1951	945,051.64	24,478,750.17	5,798,980.18	11,221.13	37,023.83	99,268,005.53
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act.....	5,800,523.45	166,144,905.73	51,426,444.18	70,202.38	61,508.21	734,007,060.97

\* Percentages based on estimated population as at June 1, 1950, except Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory which are based on 1941 Census.  
 Average monthly pension (Canada) \$37.44.

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### 1. *Agreements with Provinces*

The agreements referred to in section 1 of Part A of this report apply to pensions for blind persons as well as to pensions for aged persons. There were no changes in the agreements during the fiscal year 1950-51 affecting the payment of pensions in respect of blindness.

### 2. *Administration—Federal*

The procedures followed by federal authorities in connection with the administration of pensions for blind persons are the same as for old age pensions. The Blindness Control Division in the Health Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare deals with the medical examination of persons claiming to be blind. The cost of making such examinations in the fiscal year 1950-51 was \$16,459.00. Under certain circumstances the travelling expenses of oculists are paid by the Department. The amount paid for travelling expenses was \$1,950.64. In addition a salaried oculist was employed for two months in the Province of Newfoundland. His total expenses were \$1,959.34.

### 3. *Administration—Provincial*

The schemes for the administration of pensions for blind persons are covered by the schemes for the administration of old age pensions. There were no changes in provincial schemes for administration during the fiscal year 1950-51. Pensions for blind persons were administered by the pension authorities shown in section 3 of Part A of this report.

### 4. *Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act during the fiscal year 1950-51.

### 5. *Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations during the fiscal year 1950-51.

### 6. *Interprovincial Board*

The Interprovincial Board deals with pensions for blind persons in the same way it deals with old age pensions. As the Board did not meet during the fiscal year 1950-51 no changes were recommended in the Regulations referring specifically to blind pensioners.

**7. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons**

The following table (Table 2) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension at the end of the fiscal year 1950-51, also the amount of federal contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period January 1 to March 31, 1951, for the fiscal year 1950-51, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1951:—

TABLE 2.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1951

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia
Mar. 7, 1938	Dev. 1, 1937	Dev. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	April 1, 1949	Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	491	661	573	1,067	317	1,048
Average monthly pension	\$38.49	\$38.13	\$39.92	\$39.00	\$39.46	\$38.35
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.055	.058	.072	.204	.089	.159
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1951.....	\$42,524.98	\$56,086.30	\$52,203.57	\$94,992.36	\$80,017.62	\$90,008.74
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1950 to March 31, 1951.....	167,280.18	225,083.27	203,857.65	377,536.11	102,736.71	348,338.20
Federal Government's contributions from incorporation of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act	884,132.32	1,230,721.76	1,198,438.64	2,425,548.01	138,399.01	2,104,227.57

Act (Federal) operative as from

1948

TABLE 2.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT MARCH 31, 1951—  
*Concluded*

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory	Totals
	Act (Federal) operative as from						
	Sept. 1, 1937	Dec. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1937	Nov. 15, 1937	March 30, 1938	April 1, 1949	
Number of pensioners.....	2,408	127	4,016	484	1	2	11,198
Average monthly pension.....	\$38.66	\$38.22	\$39.07	\$38.96	\$40.00	\$40.00	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.053	.132	.101	.055	.008	.041	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1951.....	\$212,960.09	\$10,910.38	\$332,514.48	\$43,154.26	\$150.00	\$180.00	\$995,702.73
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1950—March 31, 1951.....	830,484.95	43,342.92	1,430,107.11	171,023.91	600.00	720.00	3,901,109.01
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	5,197,653.97	300,639.13	8,335,916.54	1,107,156.46	2,180.00	960.00	22,925,973.41

\* Percentages based on estimated population as at June 1, 1950, except Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory which are based on 1941 Census.  
 Average monthly pension (Canada) \$38.84.

## C—STATISTICS

## RECAPITULATION 1950-51 AND COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS

TABLE 3.—RECAPITULATION—1950-51

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS AS AT MARCH 31, 1951

Province	Number of pensioners		Total	Federal contributions since inception of the Act		Total		
	Old Age	Blind		Old Age				
				\$	cts.			
Alberta.....	17,990	494	18,484	44,913	277 68	884,132 32		
British Columbia.....	31,983	661	32,644	67,521	555 74	1,230,721 76		
Manitoba.....	17,573	573	18,146	52,855	269 33	1,198,438 64		
New Brunswick.....	16,681	1,067	17,748	37,267	613 93	2,425,548 01		
Newfoundland.....	11,394	317	11,711	6,048	520 53	138,399 01		
Nova Scotia.....	20,808	1,048	21,856	48,601	590 73	2,104,227 57		
Ontario.....	91,509	2,408	93,917	253,295	649 08	5,197,653 97		
Prince Edward Island.....	3,136	127	3,263	5,800	523 45	300,639 13		
Quebec.....	73,564	4,016	77,580	166,144	905 73	8,335,916 54		
Saskatchewan.....	17,409	484	17,893	51,426	444 18	1,107,156 46		
Northwest Territories.....	28	1	27	70,202	38	2,180 00		
Yukon Territory.....	100	2	102	61,508	21	960 00		
	302,173	11,198	313,371	734,007,060	97	22,925,973 41		
						756,933,034 38		

TABLE 4.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1949-50 AND 1950-51

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1950	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1951	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Federal contributions fiscal year 1949-50	Federal contributions fiscal year 1950-51	Net increase in amount of Federal contributions	Average monthly pension	
							\$	cts.
Alberta.....	16,445	17,990	1,545	5,182,534 12	5,876,261 07	693,726 95	37 90	37 63
British Columbia.....	28,983	31,983	2,995	9,072,353 74	10,252,116 30	1,179,782 56	37 17	36 95
Manitoba.....	16,868	17,573	705	5,578,655 98	5,984,845 37	406,189 39	38 44	38 34
New Brunswick.....	16,231	16,681	450	5,083,788 47	5,427,021 19	343,232 72	36 22	36 48
Newfoundland.....	10,296	11,394	1,098	2,229,446 41	3,819,074 12	1,589,627 71	29 47	38 01
Nova Scotia.....	19,966	20,808	842	6,056,998 50	6,572,266 69	515,268 19	35 41	35 65
Ontario.....	85,100	91,509	6,409	27,863,884 69	30,065,393 84	2,201,499 15	38 06	37 79
Prince Edward Island.....	2,976	3,136	160	865,293 30	945,051 64	79,752 34	34 36	34 38
Quebec.....	69,017	73,564	4,547	22,328,643 76	24,478,750 17	2,150,106 41	37 73	37 71
Saskatchewan.....	16,566	17,409	843	5,356,205 13	5,798,980 18	442,775 05	37 30	37 51
Northwest Territories.....	23	28	3	9,898 84	11,221 13	1,322 29	39 71	39 55
Yukon Territory.....	108	100	-8	24,484 38	37,023 83	12,539 45	38 65	38 53
	282,584	302,173	19,589	89,652,203 32	99,268,005 53	9,615,802 21		

TABLE 5.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT—FISCAL YEARS 1949-50 AND 1950-51

Province	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1950	Number of pensioners as at March 31, 1951	Net increase in number of pensioners during year	Federal contributions fiscal year 1949-50	Federal contributions fiscal year 1950-51	Net increase in amount of Federal contributions	Average monthly pension	
							\$	cts.
Alberta.....	453	494	41	148,295 29	167,280 18	18,984 89	38 68	38 49
British Columbia.....	629	661	32	204,086 42	225,083 27	20,996 51	38 17	38 13
Manitoba.....	539	573	34	184,497 01	203,835 65	19,338 64	39 29	39 32
New Brunswick.....	1,047	1,067	20	357,877 50	377,555 11	19,678 51	39 06	39 00
Newfoundland.....	171	317	146	35,662 30	102,735 71	67,074 41	29 38	39 46
Nova Scotia.....	962	1,048	86	311,947 90	348,335 20	36,390 30	38 44	38 35
Ontario.....	2,243	2,408	165	778,907 71	830,484 95	51,575 24	38 88	38 65
Prince Edward Island.....	129	127	-2	40,336 10	43,342 92	3,006 82	37 66	38 22
Quebec.....	3,869	4,016	147	1,312,410 08	1,430,107 11	117,697 03	39 07	39 07
Saskatchewan.....	472	484	12	161,883 66	171,023 91	9,140 25	38 91	38 96
Northwest Territories.....	1	1	—	585 00	600 00	15 00	40 00	40 00
Yukon Territory.....	2	2	—	240 00	720 00	480 00	40 00	40 00
	10,517	11,198	681	3,536,730 97	3,901,109 01	364,378 04		

## RECAPITULATION OF FEDERAL PAYMENTS FROM INCEPTION OF ACT

TABLE 6.—OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Number of pensioners at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1950-51 and amounts paid in each fiscal year by Federal Government

Fiscal Year	Number of Pensioners			Federal Payments					
	Old Age	Blind	Total	Old Age		Blind		Total	
				\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
1927-28.....	2,712	—	2,712	131,452	01	—	—	131,452	01
1928-29.....	10,588	—	10,588	832,686	78	—	—	832,686	78
1929-30.....	42,553	—	42,553	1,537,173	55	—	—	1,537,173	55
1930-31.....	57,930	—	57,930	5,658,142	52	—	—	5,658,142	52
1931-32.....	67,006	—	67,006	10,032,409	87	—	—	10,032,409	87
1932-33.....	71,705	—	71,705	11,512,542	73	—	—	11,512,542	73
1933-34.....	86,873	—	86,873	12,313,594	93	—	—	12,313,594	93
1934-35.....	101,051	—	101,051	14,942,459	36	—	—	14,942,459	36
1935-36.....	108,415	—	108,415	16,764,483	87	—	—	16,764,483	87
1936-37.....	146,524	—	146,524	21,149,351	52	—	—	21,149,351	52
1937-38.....	175,673	1,946	177,619	28,524,587	23	128,418	25	28,653,005	48
1938-39.....	181,514	4,512	186,026	28,283,284	11	760,354	42	29,043,638	53
1939-40.....	186,035	5,404	191,439	29,080,630	90	895,923	09	29,976,553	99
1940-41.....	185,946	5,913	191,859	28,901,932	75	1,009,766	93	29,911,699	68
1941-42.....	185,922	6,243	192,165	28,530,907	52	1,080,888	63	29,611,796	15
1942-43.....	183,601	6,374	189,975	28,861,185	55	1,114,828	30	29,976,013	85
1943-44.....	181,384	6,374	187,758	32,195,592	11	32,444,030	13	33,439,622	24
1944-45.....	187,512	6,663	194,175	39,503,027	55	1,471,977	97	40,975,005	52
1945-46.....	196,941	6,945	203,886	41,291,227	09	1,526,747	01	42,817,974	10
1946-47.....	209,029	7,311	216,340	43,829,579	98	1,615,135	59	45,444,715	57
1947-48.....	229,158	8,476	237,634	56,978,389	27	2,107,989	00	59,086,378	27
1948-49.....	251,865	9,567	261,432	64,232,210	92	2,532,074	11	66,764,285	03
1949-50.....	282,584	10,517	293,101	89,652,203	32	3,536,730	97	93,188,934	29
1950-51.....	302,173	11,198	313,371	99,268,005	53	3,901,109	01	103,169,114	54

TABLE 7.—OLD AGE PENSIONS

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1950-51

Fiscal Year	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	N.W.T.	Y.T.
1927-28.....	2,712	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1928-29.....	3,867	3,953	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,768	—	—
1929-30.....	2,017	4,576	5,104	—	—	—	26,370	—	—	4,482	—	4
1930-31.....	3,287	5,557	5,834	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,913	—	5
1931-32.....	4,382	6,486	7,190	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,643	—	5
1932-33.....	5,244	7,128	8,280	—	—	—	42,853	—	—	8,195	—	5
1933-34.....	6,286	8,095	9,236	—	—	—	6,509	46,281	1,258	9,203	—	5
1934-35.....	7,151	9,076	10,229	—	—	—	12,241	50,771	1,439	10,137	—	7
1935-36.....	8,086	10,011	10,862	—	—	—	13,044	54,040	1,659	10,706	—	7
1936-37.....	9,100	10,824	11,559	9,803	—	—	13,456	55,950	1,768	22,620	11,436	8
1937-38.....	9,726	11,563	11,800	11,142	—	—	13,827	57,530	1,811	46,490	11,775	9
1938-39.....	10,175	12,504	12,128	11,564	—	—	14,221	58,558	1,891	47,939	12,227	7
1939-40.....	10,677	13,386	12,560	11,815	—	—	14,502	59,717	2,007	48,797	12,567	7
1940-41.....	10,746	13,942	12,727	11,747	—	—	14,454	59,224	1,987	48,000	13,111	8
1941-42.....	10,952	14,464	12,701	11,779	—	—	14,285	59,232	1,962	47,338	13,211	8
1942-43.....	11,134	14,348	12,498	11,818	—	—	14,080	57,692	1,904	47,045	13,074	8
1943-44.....	11,071	14,481	12,188	11,843	—	—	13,838	56,156	1,888	47,153	12,755	11
1944-45.....	11,418	15,344	12,324	12,269	—	—	14,032	58,113	1,884	49,289	12,827	12
1945-46.....	12,098	16,637	12,981	12,663	—	—	14,771	60,831	1,980	51,567	13,398	15
1946-47.....	12,738	18,039	13,583	13,360	—	—	15,403	65,085	2,112	54,489	14,204	16
1947-48.....	13,792	21,621	15,026	14,524	—	—	16,984	70,765	2,417	59,204	14,806	19
1948-49.....	14,988	25,633	16,110	15,412	—	—	18,450	78,413	2,688	64,366	15,785	20
1949-50.....	16,445	28,988	16,588	16,231	10,296	19,966	85,100	2,976	69,017	16,566	23	108
1950-51.....	17,990	31,983	17,573	16,681	11,394	20,808	91,509	3,136	73,564	17,409	26	100

TABLE 8.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years  
1937-38 to 1950-51

Fiscal Year	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	N.W.T.	Y.T.
1937-38.....		76	98	114		171	683	41	710	53		
1938-39.....	146	232	206	510		493	1,154	104	1,453	214		
1939-40.....	183	290	268	652		573	1,333	115	1,741	249		
1940-41.....	197	301	307	704		610	1,448	116	1,947	283		
1941-42.....	215	327	327	740		620	1,506	115	2,079	314		
1942-43.....	239	334	348	722		620	1,502	116	2,173	323		
1943-44.....	242	323	339	710		633	1,449	111	2,250	317		
1944-45.....	247	336	348	736		640	1,488	110	2,425	333		
1945-46.....	269	340	365	737		664	1,543	119	2,568	340		
1946-47.....	290	370	391	758		685	1,623	121	2,709	363	1	
1947-48.....	332	460	455	896		805	1,814	126	3,178	409	1	
1948-49.....	418	580	503	1,000		878	2,070	122	3,544	451	1	
1949-50.....	453	629	539	1,047	171	962	2,243	129	3,869	472	1	2
1950-51.....	494	661	573	1,067	317	1,048	2,408	127	4,016	484	1	2

TABLE 9.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1927-28 to 1950-51

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1927-28...		131,452 01	242,303 86			355,828 97				191,041 97	557 74	
1928-29...	399,340 95	427,143 44			3,516,805 90				333,287 21	1,387 06		
1929-30...	357,801 04				6,039,971 87				1,184,539 97	1,467 71		
1930-31...	62,565 15											
1931-32...	320,363 50	1,032,840 50	1,128,222 34									
1932-33...	645,367 48											
1933-34...	827,830 32	1,176,242 75	1,362,137 75		6,827,945 49		74,125 02		1,316,956 68	1,419 74		
1934-35...	934,387 91	1,304,144 08	1,516,372 06		69,220 71	7,085,839 82			1,328,057 26	1,398 07		
1935-36...	1,070,901 17	1,478,313 72	1,655,985 90		1,479,869 16	7,671,618 81			1,455,195 60	1,719 24		
1936-37...	1,224,104 53	1,672,880 60	1,797,144 68		1,061,101 81	8,677,034 05			1,582,604 80	1,655 84		
1937-38...	1,409,059 79	1,922,415 33	1,764,915 17		1,764,915 17	9,146,837 58			2,346,107 65	1,706,190 29	1,122 57	
1938-39...	1,687,567 24	2,071,080 36	1,997,107 90	1,333,673 27					161,527 62			
1939-40...	1,737,003 48	2,220,153 70	1,992,400 38	1,440,334 10	1,836,704 46	9,527,468 70	167,330 39	8,386,230 60	1,757,834 87	1,714 50		
1940-41...	1,778,022 53	2,331,331 44	2,061,961 16	1,330,249 39	1,913,180 85	10,615,751 34	179,121 07	7,637,019 04	1,821,447 84	1,898 91		
1941-42...	1,797,033 27	2,403,312 55	2,106,888 53	1,551,711 34	1,941,171 82	9,770,254 94	193,970 13	7,758,257 34	1,882,855 50	1,764 41		
1942-43...	1,853,573 90	2,443,152 70	2,093,379 84	1,606,402 93	1,936,831 62	10,310,621 68	208,587 31	8,535,362 81	2,352,405 79	2,372 68		
1943-44...	2,062,706 03	2,701,081 33	2,002,573 38	1,732,670 49	2,137,241 68	2,807,580 33	12,291,117 43	10,386,114 68	2,794,902 96	3,073 80		
1944-45...	2,401,356 15	3,236,033 65	2,873,947 97	2,390,977 80	2,913,973 32	3,111,582 78	13,129,815 91	3,22,440 55	10,823,345 20	2,903,019 80	3,579 07	
1945-46...	2,526,144 64	3,445,865 07	2,684,083 31	2,498,871 32	3,093,204 05	13,886,363 96	350,808 13	11,466,940 27	3,085,226 48	4,222 08		
1946-47...	2,699,425 03	3,767,623 23	2,826,747 15	2,649,019 60								
1947-48...	3,466,114 21	5,171,017 31	3,727,392 10	3,634,260 45		3,943,563 30	17,999,870 26	4,048,074 78	2,043,409 91	2,060 66		
1948-49...	3,840,154 69	6,363,558 43	4,427,088 07	3,960,422 20		4,658,579 65	20,293,421 32	4,115,290 48	2,673,942 16	2,663 73		
1949-50...	5,182,532 12	9,073,333 74	5,083,758 47	2,229,446 41		6,056,998 56	27,863,841 69	5,356,205 13	22,328,643 76	8,988 84		
1950-51...	5,876,261 07	10,252,116 30	5,984,845 37	5,427,021 19	3,819,074 12	6,572,266 69	30,065,393 84	945,051 64	24,478,750 17	5,798,980 18	37,023 83	

TABLE 10.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1937-38 to 1950-51

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island		Quebec		Saskatchewan		Northwest Territories		Yukon Territory	
								\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
1937-38.			3,025 41	6,412 39	8,983 93	.....	11,984 87	38,535 29	660 12	57,028 48	1,777 76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1938-39	19,289 81	37,323 55	33,506 77	86,516 77	.....	74,418 04	189,162 73	10,518 23	263,451 54	36,166 98	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1939-40	30,064 83	46,626 94	42,471 01	108,624 41	.....	91,261 80	225,446 58	13,207 31	204,276 96	43,943 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1940-41.	33,607 58	50,564 46	51,033 74	121,246 70	.....	102,375 34	248,975 03	14,337 93	336,873 46	50,752 69	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1941-42	36,780 14	55,163 66	56,228 04	128,292 16	.....	105,970 09	284,006 67	14,071 95	365,525 53	54,830 39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1942-43.	40,968 59	58,383 31	59,752 81	129,585 11	.....	107,396 52	286,354 07	15,249 06	379,129 29	58,029 54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1943-44.	47,914 22	65,828 76	60,199 34	136,447 29	.....	114,042 77	283,956 32	19,545 00	452,061 25	64,035 18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1944-45.	54,289 17	73,302 49	85,129 83	161,588 00	.....	140,039 16	331,210 30	22,011 81	530,168 53	74,238 68	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1945-46	57,550 39	75,441 39	78,472 92	161,978 47	.....	142,671 86	341,573 54	22,794 94	568,427 51	76,825 99	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1946-47.	62,155 43	80,435 16	86,624 75	166,413 70	.....	147,465 80	359,859 91	24,211 44	605,760 62	81,938 78	250 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1947-48	81,255 50	108,588 79	114,974 51	217,407 30	.....	181,815 41	484,863 54	29,423 60	801,694 04	107,611 31	355 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1948-49	104,681 19	146,888 15	134,299 87	263,020 56	.....	224,479 81	564,315 33	30,928 72	839,002 14	124,068 34	390 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1949-50	148,295 29	204,086 42	184,497 01	337,877 50	35,662 30	311,947 90	778,909 71	40,336 10	1,312,410 08	161,883 66	585 00	240 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1950-51...	167,290 18	225,083 27	203,835 65	377,556 11	162,736 71	348,338 20	830,484 95	43,342 92	1,430,107 11	171,023 91	600 00	720 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

**PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL DATA FURNISHED BY THE  
PROVINCIAL PENSION AUTHORITIES**

**OLD AGE**

PENSIONS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1950-51

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Total.....	3,141	5,533	2,671	2,097	2,206	2,941	16,213	516	11,862	2,486		649,672
Male.....	1,730	2,890	1,350	1,041	1,026	1,418	7,404	239	5,716	1,387		524,206
Female.....	1,411	2,643	1,321	1,056	1,180	1,523	8,809	277	6,146	1,099		125,466
Married.....	1,516	2,574	1,308	1,078	1,115	1,398	7,056	231	5,924	1,295		123,496
Single.....	354	680	265	253	160	331	1,858	69	968	248		35,189
Widower.....	362	534	294	227	260	308	1,806	58	1,665	280		15,795
Widow.....	721	1,202	680	488	643	807	4,730	151	3,018	532		112,973
Separated.....	163	499	110	46	28	93	735	7	287	124		2,092
Divorced.....	25	44	14	5	.....	4	28	.....	.....	7		127
Age 70.....	1,737	2,555	1,582	1,477	1,147	1,622	6,845	225	6,992	1,354		125,537
71-75.....	924	2,056	735	375	636	782	5,438	141	2,841	864		314,795
76-80.....	300	646	221	148	239	313	2,477	79	1,310	181		15,915
Over 80.....	180	276	133	97	184	224	1,453	71	719	87		13,425
In cities.....	1,149	3,598	1,263	426	328	274	7,638	63	4,922	600		420,265
In towns.....	474	495	294	254	296	695	2,978	41	1,290	457		72,74
In villages.....	553	328	619	98	1,582	1,035	3,602	60	5,436	587		213,902
On farms.....	965	1,112	495	1,319	.....	937	1,995	352	214	842		8,231
Own homes.....	1,394	2,368	805	1,117	1,325	1,839	6,415	295	2,180	1,289		319,030
Rented houses or apts.....	239	992	370	270	65	113	2,121	42	2,753	237		7,202
Children-relatives.....	876	1,124	1,053	653	757	805	6,571	149	5,513	569		218,072
Rented rooms.....	488	905	390	40	9	151	870	16	1,062	336		4,267
Public institutions.....	95	97	23	5	25	23	211	11	.....	37		527
Private institutions.....	49	47	30	12	25	10	25	3	354	18		1574
Receives—												
Other pension.....	238	550	164	140	135	252	1,382	7	663	32		3,563
Annuity.....	18	176	28	8	3	13	238	8	418	63		973
Unemployment insurance.....	106	478	93	50	24	49	1,087	5	443	10		2,345

NUMBER OWNING NO REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Single.....	686	1,150	551	274	488	403	2,813	148	2,104	424	.....	9,041
Married couples.....	244	206	210	77	141	93	1,098	31	1,522	173	.....	3,795

NUMBER OWNING PROPERTY  
SINGLE PENSIONERS

Real and Personal		Personal		Real	
Less than \$ 500	\$ 501 - 1,000	Less than \$ 500	\$ 501 - 1,000	Less than \$ 500	\$ 501 - 1,000
1,400	7	145	88	830	5
55	49	25	8	630	3
1,500	41	12	4	54	50
1,501	28	11	3	54	51
2,000	21	13	7	32	52
3,000	17	12	3	305	53
3,001	16	12	3	315	54
4,000	17	12	3	315	55
4,001	16	12	3	315	56
5,000	4,001	—	—	305	57
5,001	4,001	—	—	315	58
6,000	5,000	—	—	315	59
7,000	6,001	—	—	315	60
8,000	7,001	—	—	315	61
8,001	7,001	—	—	315	62
9,000	8,000	—	—	315	63
9,001	8,000	—	—	315	64
10,000	9,000	—	—	315	65
10,000	9,001	—	—	315	66
Over	10,000	—	—	315	67

NUMBER OWNING PROPERTY

MARCH 1941

Real and Personal		Personal		Real	
Less than \$ 300					
\$ 300 - 1,000					
1,000 - 1,500					
1,500 - 2,000					
2,000 - 3,000					
3,000 - 4,000					
4,000 - 5,000					
5,000 - 6,000					
6,000 - 7,000					
7,000 - 8,000					
8,000 - 9,000					
9,000 - 10,000					
Over 10,000					

**Note:** Provinces generally take as value of real property the assessed value less encumbrances.

## BLIND

## PENSIONS GRANTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1950-51

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Total.....	73	73	82	84	156	151	357	10	489	45	.....	1,520
Male.....	41	42	44	37	86	77	195	3	242	25	.....	792
Female.....	32	31	38	47	70	74	162	7	247	20	.....	728
Married.....	25	39	45	46	72	70	145	6	225	17	.....	690
Single.....	21	11	19	21	45	41	112	4	149	11	.....	434
Widower.....	6	7	6	3	16	12	18	.....	29	3	.....	100
Widow.....	15	9	7	10	23	18	52	.....	59	10	.....	203
Separated.....	4	7	5	4	.....	9	27	.....	27	3	.....	86
Divorced.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	.....	.....	1	.....	7
Age 21.....	.....	.....	1	4	7	4	47	.....	29	2	.....	94
22-30.....	7	4	4	9	7	13	27	1	40	2	.....	114
31-40.....	4	3	6	6	17	16	30	.....	65	8	.....	155
41-50.....	12	9	4	8	14	22	23	3	73	5	.....	173
51-60.....	11	12	19	21	24	29	50	2	94	7	.....	269
61-70.....	29	29	37	26	46	52	127	3	171	18	.....	538
71-80.....	3	9	6	5	26	12	45	.....	13	2	.....	121
Over 80.....	7	7	5	5	15	3	8	1	4	1	.....	56
In cities.....	36	51	32	10	27	24	204	2	201	14	.....	601
In towns.....	3	3	7	12	25	39	45	3	63	7	.....	207
In villages.....	9	10	23	8	104	59	69	3	210	8	.....	503
On farms.....	25	9	20	54	.....	29	39	2	15	15	16	209
Own homes.....	24	31	32	38	80	79	137	5	100	17	.....	543
Rented houses or apts.....	6	15	11	12	.....	12	49	.....	100	4	.....	209
Children-relatives.....	27	14	31	34	69	39	145	3	215	11	.....	588
Rented rooms.....	9	12	6	.....	.....	16	20	2	48	11	.....	124
Public institutions.....	2	1	1	.....	4	2	6	.....	.....	2	.....	18
Private institutions.....	5	.....	1	.....	3	3	.....	.....	26	.....	.....	38
Receives—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other pension.....	4	5	3	5	4	9	66	.....	.....	2	.....	98
Annuity.....	2	7	.....	1	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Unemployment insurance.....	2	8	.....	.....	2	5	59	.....	.....	1	.....	76

## NUMBER OWNING NO REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

—	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Single.....	26	16	22	19	49	41	96	4	133	9	.....	415
Married couples.....	3	6	10	6	11	9	27	.....	63	1	.....	136

**NUMBER OWNING PROPERTY  
SCHOOL PROVISION**

Giant Brachiosaurus

NUMBER OWNING PROPERTY  
MARRIED COUPLES

MARRIED COUPLES

**Note:** Provinces generally take as value of real property the assessed value less encumbrances.

## OLD AGE

## APPLICATIONS DECLINED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1950-51

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Not 70.....	89	124	156	60		212	997	39	306	82		2,065
2. Unable to prove age.....	10	28	7		1	9	64		30	5		154
3. Too much income.....	80	116	54	127	53	185	504	43	485	84		1,711
4. Not sufficient residence.....	6	7	2	4		14	22	1	17			73
5. Unable to prove residence.....		9		1			11	1	3			25
6. Transferred property.....		28	22	21			317	16	79	22		505
7. War veterans allowance.....		1	3	17	4	11	34	4	10	10		94
8. Pension for blind.....			1						3			4
9. An Indian.....					1		55		2	1		59
10. Refused information.....		24	12	20	7		3	186	4	83	3	342
11. Assistance private source.....						1	137		1	1		140
12. In mental hospital.....	2	1		1		3	101		1	1	3	113
13. Entitled to support.....						6	144		2			152
14. Whereabouts unknown.....			9								6	15

## APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Withdrawn.....	24	116	13	10		35	1,119		8	149	64	1,538
2. Died before grant.....	33	102	33	18	20	20	285		4	123	27	665

§

## BLIND

## APPLICATIONS DECLINED DURING FISCAL YEAR 1950-51

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Not 21.....						1	1			12	1	15
2. Unable to prove age.....		2					2			2		6
3. Too much income.....	5	1	2	3	2	7	10		36	10		76
4. Not sufficient residence.....			1			1	7			2		11
5. Unable to prove residence.....												
6. Transferred property.....							5		1			6
7. War Veterans allowance.....						1	3					4
8. An Indian.....									1			1
9. Refused information.....	2			3			6		20	2		33
10. Assistance private source.....							4					4
11. In mental hospital.....							1					1
12. Entitled to support.....		1					1					10
13. Unable to meet blind test.....	24	10	13	127	34	60	56	1	629	19		973

## APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Withdrawn.....	2	7	3	1		2	19			18	5	57
2. Died before grant.....			1			5	14		21	3		44

Gov. Doc  
Can  
N

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE, CANADA

- R 51

Report on the  
**Administration of Old Age Pensions  
and Pensions for Blind Persons  
in Canada**

*Under the Provisions of the  
Old Age Pensions Act  
Chapter 156, Revised Statutes  
of Canada, 1927*

*As Amended by*  
21-22 George V, Chapter 42 (1931)  
1 George VI, Chapter 13 (1937)  
11 George VI, Chapter 67 (1947)  
13 George VI, Chapter 19 (1949)

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1952

OTTAWA  
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.  
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY  
1952

*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, P.C., C.H., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency a report for the year ended March 31, 1952, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PAUL MARTIN,  
*Minister of National Health and Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1952.

The Honourable PAUL MARTIN,  
Minister of National Health and Welfare.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you a report for the year ended March 31, 1952, of the operation of the agreements made pursuant to the Old Age Pensions Act and of the moneys of Canada paid to the provinces under each of the several agreements made pursuant to the said Act.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE F. DAVIDSON,  
*Deputy Minister of Welfare.*

OTTAWA, April 30, 1952.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### A. OLD AGE PENSIONS

	PAGE
1. Old Age Pensions Act superseded by new legislation.....	5
2. Agreements with Provinces.....	7
3. Administration—Federal.....	7
4. Administration—Provincial.....	7
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act.....	8
6. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations.....	8
7. Interprovincial Board.....	8
8. Financial and Statistical Summary as at December 31, 1951.....	9
9. Federal expenditure to March 31, 1952.....	11

### B. PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

1. Separate legislation enacted.....	13
2. Agreements with Provinces.....	14
3. Administration—Federal.....	14
4. Administration—Provincial.....	14
5. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Act affecting Blind Persons.....	14
6. Amendments to Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Blind Persons.....	14
7. Interprovincial Board.....	14
8. Financial and Statistical Summary as at December 31, 1951.....	15
9. Federal expenditure to March 31, 1952.....	17

### C. STATISTICS

Recapitulation of Federal Payments from inception of Act.....	19
Recapitulation of Provincial Statistical data.....	23

# REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

FISCAL YEAR 1951-52

## A—OLD AGE PENSIONS

### 1. *Old Age Pensions Act superseded by new legislation*

The Old Age Pensions Act, passed by Parliament in 1927, was the first federal legislation in the field of welfare. At the time the Act was passed, welfare was generally regarded as being the exclusive responsibility of the provinces. Consequently the Act provided for provincial administration of old age pensions and for payment of one-half of their cost by the federal government. The rapid expansion of welfare services generally with the resulting increase in expenditure soon made necessary a greater participation by the federal government. Parliament's awareness of this trend was made evident by an amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act in 1931 under which the federal government assumed seventy-five per cent of the cost of old age pensions.

By 1936 all provinces had entered into agreements with the federal government for the payment of old age pensions. As at March 31, 1939, there were 186,026 pensioners under the Old Age Pensions Act, of whom 4,512 were receiving pensions in respect of blindness. The federal share of the cost of pensions for the fiscal year 1938-39 was \$29,043,638.53. The number of pensioners as at March 31, 1950, was 293,101 including 10,517 blind pensioners, and the federal share for the fiscal year 1949-50 was \$93,188,934.29. The substantial increase in expenditure was partly due to the increase in the number of pensioners and partly to increases in the maximum pension. The original Act provided for a maximum pension of \$20 a month. This amount was increased to \$25 a month in 1943, to \$30 a month in 1947 and to \$40 a month in 1949.

Although Parliament, by amendments to the Act, had made more generous provision for aged and blind persons, the steadily mounting federal and provincial expenditure for pensions, along with persistent public criticism of the means test, raised problems which it was felt could only be dealt with by Parliament. A joint committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on old age security was, therefore, appointed in 1950. After examining plans in operation in several other countries, the Committee submitted a unanimous report recommending far-reaching changes in the Canadian plan. Its recommendation appeared in paragraph 51 of the report and was as follows:

"All things considered, the Committee is of the opinion that the most suitable old age security plan for Canada under present circumstances consists of a two-fold program, as follows:

- (a) A universal pay-as-you-go program applicable to all persons 70 years of age and over, based on the contributory principle and administered by the federal government. The benefit should be a flat, uniform amount of \$40 a month for all eligible persons, and eligibility should be based solely on age and a suitable residence qualification.
- (b) For the age group 65 and over not eligible for the universal benefit, old age assistance at the rate of \$40 a month should be available, subject to an eligibility test in some respects similar to that which

exists under the present old age assistance program, but modified to take account of the different characteristics of the age group to which this test is to apply, and adjusted in such a way as to recognize to a greater extent than at present the desirability of encouraging recipients to earn supplemental income."

The Committee's recommendation was accepted by the Government of Canada which called a federal-provincial conference to deal with the matter of amending the British North America Act to permit implementation of the recommendation. The Act amending the British North America Act, agreed to by the Government of Canada and the Governments of the ten provinces, was passed by the United Kingdom Parliament and assented to May 31, 1951. The text reads as follows:

"1. The British North America Act, 1867, is amended by adding thereto immediately after section ninety-four thereof the following heading and section:

#### "OLD AGE PENSIONS

94A. It is hereby declared that the Parliament of Canada may from time to time make laws in relation to old age pensions in Canada, but no law made by the Parliament of Canada in relation to old age pensions shall affect the operation of any law present or future of a Provincial Legislature in relation to old age pensions".

2. This Act may be cited as the British North America Act, 1951, and the British North America Acts, 1867 to 1949, and this Act may be cited together as the British North America Acts, 1867 to 1951."

Legislation dealing with the new plan was passed by Parliament in 1951. The Old Age Assistance Act and The Blind Persons Act were assented to on June 30, 1951, to come into force on January 1, 1952. The Old Age Security Act was assented to on December 21, 1951, to be effective from and after January 1, 1952. The three Acts, as originally passed by Parliament, and the original Regulations under the Acts, appear in this report as Appendices I, II, and III.

For various reasons it was deemed advisable to continue the Old Age Pensions Act in force for some time after the three new Acts came into operation. Provision for its repeal is contained in Section 13 of The Old Age Security Act quoted in this report under the heading "Agreements". As of March 31, 1952, the Old Age Pensions Act had not been repealed.

As this new legislation will shortly bring to a close operations carried on over a period of a quarter of a century under the Old Age Pensions Act, it seems appropriate in this report to review briefly what was accomplished under that Act. While it is not possible to state with certainty the actual number of persons, aged and blind, who benefitted from its provisions, a conservative estimate places the number at well over a million. Federal contributions to pensions paid these persons amounted to more than \$800,000,000 and federal and provincial payments combined, to more than \$1,000,000,000. These figures do not include amounts paid by the provinces as supplemental allowances. When payments under the Act ceased as of December 31, 1951, the total number of pensioners was 320,160 of whom 308,825 were receiving old age pensions and 11,335 pensions in respect of blindness. The yearly expenditure for federal contributions was approximately \$108,000,000, and combined federal and provincial expenditure, approximately \$144,000,000.

The figures shown above indicate the scope of the operations under the Old Age Pensions Act. While its coverage was limited through the application of the means test there can be no doubt that its provisions, though restrictive in comparison with those of The Old Age Security Act, relieved a great deal

of distress and brought a measure of comfort to the most needy among the aged population. As of December 31, 1951, all persons over 70 years of age in receipt of pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act were transferred to the administration of The Old Age Security Act under which they, along with others over the age of seventy years, will henceforth receive their pensions from the federal government without regard to the value of their income or property.

In conformity with reports made to Parliament in previous years, the following information is given:

## *2. Agreements with Provinces*

There were no changes during the fiscal year 1951-52 in the agreements between the Government of Canada and the provinces entered into prior to April 1, 1951. For the purpose of regular quarterly contributions by the Government of Canada to the provinces, the agreements, except the one with the Yukon Territory, terminated as of December 31, 1951, although payments were made during the remaining months of the fiscal year 1951-52 in respect of applicants who had applied for old age pension prior to December 1, 1951, and whose applications could not be investigated and approved until after January 1, 1952. The agreement with the Yukon Territory was continued in force under the authority of Section 13 (2) of The Blind Persons Act. This was done for the purpose of continuing payment of pensions granted to two blind persons under the Old Age Pensions Act, no new agreement having been made with the Yukon Territory under The Blind Persons Act.

Section 13 of The Old Age Security Act provides as follows:

"(1) Subject to section thirteen of The Blind Persons Act, no contributions shall be made by the Government of Canada under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act in respect of any pension, as defined in that Act, paid by any province in respect of any period after the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-one.

(2) The Old Age Pensions Act is repealed on a day to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor in Council."

As no proclamation was issued prior to March 31, 1952, the clauses of the agreements relating to matters other than federal payments in respect of any period after December 31, 1951, were in effect during all of the fiscal year.

## *3. Administration—Federal*

Federal administration of old age pensions has, for many years, been the responsibility of the Old Age Pensions Division, established in the Department of Finance following the transfer of the administration to that Department from the Department of Labour in 1935 and continued in the Department of National Health and Welfare from 1945. Until such time as the Old Age Pensions Act is repealed the same Division will continue to deal with the federal part of the administration of the Act. The name of the Division has, however, been changed to "The Old Age Assistance Division" as the personnel which has been employed in the administration of old age pensions is now responsible for the federal part of the administration of The Old Age Assistance Act and The Blind Persons Act.

The administration of The Old Age Security Act is entirely a federal responsibility and comes under the National Director of Old Age Security at Ottawa.

## *4. Administration—Provincial*

New provincial legislation providing for the payment of assistance under The Old Age Assistance Act and allowances under The Blind Persons Act supersedes legislation providing for the payment of pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act. In some provinces the administrative authority, referred to

in the Old Age Pensions Act as the "pension authority" and in The Old Age Assistance Act and The Blind Persons Act as the "provincial authority", has been changed by the new legislation. In other provinces the same administrative authority has been retained but the title has been altered. In all cases, however, the administrative authority appointed under recent provincial legislation will continue to administer old age pensions until such time as the Old Age Pensions Act is repealed. The provincial authorities are as follows:

Alberta—The Old Age Pensions Board, Edmonton  
British Columbia—Old-age Assistance Board, Vancouver  
Manitoba—The Old Age Assistance and Blind Persons' Allowances Board, Winnipeg  
New Brunswick—Old Age and Blind Assistance Board, Fredericton  
Newfoundland—The Old Age Assistance Board, St. John's  
Nova Scotia—Old Age Assistance Board, Halifax  
Ontario—Director of Old Age Assistance, Toronto  
Prince Edward Island—Director of Old Age Assistance, Charlottetown  
Quebec—Quebec Social Allowances Commission, Quebec  
Saskatchewan—Social Welfare Board, Regina  
Northwest Territories—Director of Old Age Assistance, Department of Resources and Development, Ottawa.

The Government of the Yukon Territory did not pass new legislation during the fiscal year 1951-52 and, therefore, did not appoint a provincial authority. In the Yukon Territory old age pensions have been administered by the Old Age Pensions Board, Dawson.

#### *5. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act*

The Old Age Pensions Act was not amended during the fiscal year 1951-52.

#### *6. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations*

There were no changes during the fiscal year 1951-52 in the Regulations made under the authority of the Old Age Pensions Act.

#### *7. Interprovincial Board*

The Interprovincial Board appointed under the Act to interpret and recommend alterations in the Old Age Pensions Regulations met in Ottawa on July 16th and 17th, 1951. The meeting was, however, for the purpose of discussing new regulations under The Old Age Assistance Act and The Blind Persons Act.

### 8. Financial and Statistical Summary—Old Age Pensions

The following table (Table 1) shows the number of persons receiving old age pensions as at December 31, 1951, federal contributions to each province for the quarter October 1 to December 31, 1951, the total of federal contributions to each province for the nine months ended December 31, 1951, and from the inception of the Act, the amount paid to pensioners in the Northwest Territories and other relevant statistical information based on the estimated population as at June 1, 1950.

TABLE I.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	
	Act (Federal) operative as from							
	Aug. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1927	Sept. 1, 1928	July 1, 1936	April 1, 1949	March 1, 1954	Nov. 1, 1951	9
Number of pensioners.....	18,408	33,060	17,906	16,825	11,925	20,808	93,175	
Average monthly pension .....	\$37.53	\$36.75	\$38.16	\$36.58	\$38.02	\$35.64	\$37.73	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	2.06	2.91	2.25	3.22	3.36	3.16	2.07	
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	4.23	6.29	4.91	4.46	3.89	5.33	5.54	
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	48.57	46.17	45.91	72.21	86.41	59.28	37.26	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended December 31, 1951.....	\$1,539,612.84	\$2,719,007.29	\$1,526,333.11	\$1,389,106.92	\$1,076,311.26	\$1,671,955.66	\$7,851,012.31	
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951; December 31, 1951 .....	4,608,500.34	\$1,088,739.25	4,599,347.86	4,154,187.21	3,091,342.33	5,031,711.71	23,357,032.03	
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act, ...	49,521,778.02	75,610,314.99	57,454,617.19	41,421,801.14	9,139,862.86	53,633,302.44	276,652,681.11	

TABLE I.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CANADA AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951—Concluded

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory	Totals
	Act (Federal) operative as from					
	July 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1936	May 1, 1928	Jan. 25, 1929	April 1, 1949	
Number of pensioners.....	3,226	75,541	17,844	22	85	308,825
Average monthly pension.....	\$34.92	\$37.68	\$37.48	\$38.69	\$38.75	
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	3.36	1.90	2.04	.18	1.73	
*Percentage of persons 70 years of age or over to total population.....	6.46	3.48	4.52	1.52	6.67	
*Percentage of pensioners to population 70 years of age or over.....	52.03	54.58	45.17	12.02	25.91	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended December 31, 1951.....	\$251,509.82	\$6,401,787.04	\$1,498,157.66	\$2,743.04	\$7,556.39	\$25,935,093.94
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—December 31, 1951.....	746,063.63	19,115,703.92	4,514,081.07	8,955.77	24,327.37	77,340,012.49
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act.....	6,546,537.08	185,260,609.65	55,940,525.25	79,153.15	85,835.58	811,347,073.46

\* Percentages based on estimated population as at June 1, 1950, except Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory which are based on 1941 Census.  
 Average monthly pension (Canada) \$37.39.

### 9. Federal expenditure for Old Age Pensions to March 31, 1952

The following table (Table 2) shows adjustments with provinces for quarter January 1, 1952 to March 31, 1952 being for amounts owed by Canada to the provinces for federal share in cases not completed prior to December 31, 1951 and amounts owed Canada by the provinces on account of refunds; also total federal contributions for fiscal year April 1, 1951 to March 31, 1952 and from the inception of the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1952.

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	
	Aug. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1927	Sept. 1, 1928	July 1, 1935	April 1, 1949	March 1, 1934	Nov. 1, 1929
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1952 .....	\$2,678 80	\$16,630 79	\$8,153 37	\$3,373 42	\$7,213 97	\$4,191 52	\$24,374 56	
Amounts refunded to Canada by provinces .....	20,847 65	24,523 50	11,543 80	4,553 91	3,793 56	5,022 64	95,072 18	
Balance owed to Canada .....	18,168 85	7,892 71	3,390 43	1,180 49	.....	831 12	70,697 62	
Balance owed by Canada .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,420 41	.....	.....	.....
Act (Federal) operative as from								
Recapitulation of Federal expenditure to March 31, 1952								
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951 December 31, 1951 .....	4,608,500 34	8,088,750 25	4,590,347 86	4,154,157 21	3,091,342 33	5,031,711 71	23,357,032 03	
Adjustments for quarter ended March 31, 1952 .....	-18,168 85	-7,892 71	-3,390 43	-1,180 49	+3,420 41	-831 12	-70,697 62	
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951 March 31, 1952 .....	4,580,331 49	8,080,866 54	4,595,957 43	4,153,006 72	3,094,762 74	5,030,880 59	23,286,334 41	
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act .....	49,503,600 17	75,602,422 28	57,451,226 76	41,420,620 65	9,143,283 27	53,632,471 32	276,581,983 49	

9. Federal Expenditure for Old Age Pensions to March 31, 1952—Concluded

	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory	Totals
Act (Federal) operative as from						
	July 1, 1933	Aug. 1, 1936	May 1, 1928	Jan. 25, 1929	April 1, 1949	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1952.....	\$264 50	\$36,982 72	\$13,171 80	\$.....	\$117,035 45	
Amounts refunded to Canada by provinces .....	1,184 68	74,549 12	11,504 46	.....	180 00	252,775 50
Balance owed to Canada.....	920 18	37,566 40	.....	.....	180 00	140,827 80
Balance owed by Canada.....	.....	.....	1,667 34	.....	5,087 75	
Recapitulation of Federal expenditure to March 31, 1952						
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—December 31, 1951.....	746,063 63	19,115,703 92	4,514,081 07	8,955 77	24,327 37	77,340,012 49
Adjustments for quarter ended March 31, 1952.....	-920 18	-37,566 40	+1,667 34	.....	-180 00	-135,740 05
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—March 31, 1952.....	745,143 45	19,078,137 52	4,515,748 41	8,955 77	24,147 37	77,204,272 44
Federal Government's contributions from inception of the Old Age Pensions Act.....	6,545,666 90	185,223,043 25	55,942,192 59	79,158 15	85,655 58	811,211,333 41

## B—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

### 1. Separate legislation enacted

The Blind Persons Act, referred to in Part A of this report, deals solely with allowances for blind persons. Although the Act was passed by Parliament simultaneously with The Old Age Assistance Act, it was not actually based on anything in the recommendation of the joint committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on old age security which dealt only with old age pensions and old age assistance. There were several reasons for the separation of pensions in respect of blindness from old age pensions, the most important one being that the provision for aiding blind persons in legislation dealing primarily with aged persons had always caused confusion and inconsistencies which were bound to be exaggerated in an expanded scheme. In effect the new Act continues the plan followed under the Old Age Pensions Act for assisting blind persons by monthly payments, referred to as "allowances" rather than "pensions", subject to income and residence requirements somewhat more generous than those applied under the Old Age Pensions Act.

As at December 31, 1951, there were 11,335 blind persons receiving pensions under the Old Age Pensions Act of whom a substantial number were over the age of 70 years. As in the case of other pensioners under the Act, arrangements were made to transfer blind pensioners over the age of 70 years to the administration of The Old Age Security Act. The number of blind pensioners in each province as at December 31, 1951, and the number transferred as of the same date were as follows:

Province	Number of Pensioners	Number Transferred to Old Age Security
Alberta.....	507	127
British Columbia.....	684	259
Manitoba.....	584	178
New Brunswick.....	1,082	303
Newfoundland.....	385	75
Nova Scotia.....	1,028	287
Ontario.....	2,491	907
Prince Edward Island.....	125	47
Quebec.....	3,948	872
Saskatchewan.....	498	157
Northwest Territories.....	1	—
Yukon Territory.....	2	—
Total.....	11,335	3,212

The transfer by the provincial authorities of the remaining pensions in respect of blindness to the administration of The Blind Persons Act terminated the administration of pensions for blind persons under the Old Age Pensions Act although, as has been explained in Part A of this report, the Old Age Pensions Act had not been repealed as at March 31, 1952, the end of the fiscal year. In future, blind persons over the age of 70 years will receive pensions from the federal government under the provisions of The Old Age Security Act. Blind persons not 70 years of age to whom pensions were granted under the Old Age Pensions Act will continue to receive allowances from the provinces which, as before, will pay 25 per cent of the cost with the federal government paying the remaining 75 per cent. New applicants will, of course, be granted allowances under The Blind Persons Act.

The following information is given on matters ordinarily covered by reports to Parliament on the administration of pensions for blind persons:

## *2. Agreements with Provinces*

Both old age pensions and pensions in respect of blindness were dealt with by the same agreement so that there was only one agreement with each province under the Old Age Pensions Act. The comments regarding agreements in Part A of this report apply, therefore, to pensions in respect of blindness.

## *3. Administration—Federal*

Pensions for blind persons under the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act have always been administered by the division of the federal department responsible for the administration of old age pensions. As has been explained in Part A of this report, the name of the administering division in the Department of National Health and Welfare has been changed from "Old Age Pensions Division" to "Old Age Assistance Division". This Division will be responsible for the administration of The Blind Persons Act and will continue to deal with any matters relating to pensions in respect of blindness under the Old Age Pensions Act until such time as that Act is repealed.

## *4. Administration—Provincial*

In the provinces the officials or boards responsible for the administration of old age pensions have also been responsible for the administration of pensions in respect of blindness. Recent provincial legislation has, in some cases, provided for a change in the administering authority or for a change in the name. However, the new provincial authorities appointed to administer allowances under The Blind Persons Act will continue to deal with matters in connection with pensions in respect of blindness under the Old Age Pensions Act while that Act continues in force. The provincial authorities shown in Part A of this report under the heading "Administration—Provincial" are the provincial authorities for blind allowances except in British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, the former province having designated the provincial authority for blind allowances as the "Blind Persons' Allowances Board" and the latter, as the "Director of Blind Persons Allowance".

## *5. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Act during the fiscal year 1951-52.

## *6. Amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations affecting Pensions for Blind Persons*

There were no amendments to the Old Age Pensions Regulations during the fiscal year 1951-52.

## *7. Interprovincial Board*

The Interprovincial Board appointed under the Old Age Pensions Act met on July 16th and 17th, 1951, to discuss new regulations under The Blind Persons Act and The Old Age Assistance Act.

### 8. Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons

The following table (Table 3) shows the number of blind pensioners and the average monthly pension as at December 31, 1951; also federal contributions to the provinces for the quarterly period October 1 to December 31, 1951, for the nine months April 1 to December 31, 1951, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to December 31, 1951:—

TABLE 3 FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1951

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia
	Act (Federal) operative as from					
	Mar. 7, 1938	Dec. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	April 1, 1949	Oct. 1, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	507	684	584	1,082	385	1,028
Average monthly pension.....	\$38.50	\$38.07	\$39.14	\$39.03	\$39.33	\$38.39
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.057	.060	.073	.207	.108	.156
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended December 31, 1951,.....	\$43,617.55	\$58,902.87	\$51,775.32	\$95,853.12	\$34,637.58	\$88,782.97
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951 December 31, 1951,.....	129,553.84	176,317.35	156,918.55	285,344.65	99,956.21	267,004.00
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act	1,013,686.16	1,407,039.11	1,355,357.19	2,710,892.66	238,355.22	2,371,231.57

8. *Financial and Statistical Summary—Pensions for Blind Persons—Concluded*

TABLE 3.—FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF BLINDNESS IN CANADA AS AT  
DECEMBER 31, 1951—*Concluded*

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory	Totals	Act (Federal) operative as from			
								Sept. 1, 1937	Dec. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1937	Nov. 15, 1937
Number of pensioners.....	2,491		125	3,948	498	1	2				11,335
Average monthly pension.....	\$38.71		\$38.15	\$39.06	\$38.88	\$40.00	\$40.00				.....
*Percentage of pensioners to total population.....	.055		.130	.099	.057	.008	.041				.....
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended December 31, 1951.....	\$220,063.45		\$10,623.25	\$351,270.12	\$44,414.23	\$150.00	\$180.00				\$1,000,270.46
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—December 31, 1951.....	650,326.16		32,008.76	1,064,253.36	133,441.79	450.00	540.00				2,996,114.67
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	5,847,980.13		332,647.89	9,400,169.90	1,240,598.25	2,630.00	1,500.00				25,922,088.08

\*Percentages based on estimated population as at June 1, 1950, except Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory which are based on 1941 Census.  
Average monthly pension ('Canada) \$38.83.

9. *Federal expenditure for Pensions in Respect of Blindness to March 31, 1952*

The following table (Table 4) shows adjustments with provinces for quarter January 1, 1952 to March 31, 1952 being for amounts owed by Canada to the provinces for federal share in cases not completed prior to December 31, 1951 and amounts owed Canada by the provinces on account of refunds; also total federal contributions for fiscal year April 1, 1951 to March 31, 1952, and from the inception of the amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act to March 31, 1952.

	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia
	Act (Federal) operative as from					
	Mar. 7, 1938	Dec. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	Sept. 1, 1937	April 1, 1949	Oct. 1, 1937
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1952.....	\$407.02	\$888.92	\$763.72	\$187.01	\$893.92	\$217.38
Amounts refunded to Canada by provinces.....	351.76	282.50	270.00	60.00	185.63	206.89
Balance owed to Canada.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Balance owed by Canada.....	55.26	606.42	493.72	127.01	708.29	10.49

Recapitulation of Federal expenditure to March 31, 1952

Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—December 31, 1951.....	129,553.84	176,317.35	156,918.55	285,344.65	99,956.21	267,004.00
Adjustments for quarter ended March 31, 1952.....	+55.26	+606.42	+493.72	+127.01	+708.29	+10.49
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—March 31, 1952.....	129,609.10	176,923.77	157,412.27	285,471.66	100,664.50	267,014.49
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	1,013,741.42	1,497,645.53	1,355,830.91	2,711,019.67	239,063.51	2,371,242.06

9. *Federal Expenditure for Pensions in Respect of Blindness to March 31, 1952—Concluded*

	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory	Totals
	Act (Federal) operative as from						
	Sept. 1, 1937	Dec. 1, 1937	Oct. 1, 1937	Nov. 15, 1937	March 30, 1938	April 1, 1949	
Federal Government's contributions for quarter ended March 31, 1952.....	\$3,547.77	\$5.00	\$5,311.05	\$713.36	\$10.00	.....	\$12,945.15
Amounts refunded to Canada by provinces.....	2,691.15	120.00	2,929.23	210.00	.....	.....	7,307.16
Balance owed to Canada.....	.....	115.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	115.00
Balance owed by Canada.....	856.62	.....	2,351.82	503.36	10.00	.....	5,752.99
Recapitulation of Federal expenditure to March 31, 1952							
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—December 31, 1951.....	650,326.16	32,008.76	1,064,253.36	133,441.79	450.00	\$540.00	2,996,114.67
Adjustments for quarter ended March 31, 1952.	+856.62	-115.00	+2,381.82	+503.36	+10.00	.....	+5,637.99
Federal Government's contributions April 1, 1951—March 31, 1952.....	651,182.78	31,893.76	1,066,635.18	133,945.15	460.00	540.00	3,001,752.66
Federal Government's contributions from inception of amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act.....	5,848,836.75	332,532.89	9,402,551.72	1,241,101.61	2,640.00	1,500.00	25,927,726.07

## C—STATISTICS

### RECAPITULATION OF FEDERAL PAYMENTS FROM INCEPTION OF ACT

**TABLE 5.—OLD AGE PENSIONS AND PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS**

Number of pensioners at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1950-51 and as at December 31, 1951 and amounts paid in each fiscal year by Federal Government

Fiscal Year	Number of Pensioners			Federal Payments					
	Old Age	Blind	Total	Old Age		Blind		Total	
				\$	cts.	\$	cts.	\$	cts.
1927-28.....	2,712	—	2,712	131,452	01	—	—	131,452	01
1928-29.....	10,588	—	10,588	832,686	78	—	—	832,686	78
1929-30.....	42,553	—	42,553	1,537,173	55	—	—	1,537,173	55
1930-31.....	57,930	—	57,930	5,658,142	52	—	—	5,658,142	52
1931-32.....	67,006	—	67,006	10,032,409	87	—	—	10,032,409	87
1932-33.....	71,705	—	71,705	11,512,542	73	—	—	11,512,542	73
1933-34.....	86,873	—	86,873	12,313,594	93	—	—	12,313,594	93
1934-35.....	101,051	—	101,051	14,942,459	36	—	—	14,942,459	36
1935-36.....	108,415	—	108,415	16,764,483	87	—	—	16,764,483	87
1936-37.....	146,524	—	146,524	21,149,351	52	—	—	21,149,351	52
1937-38.....	175,673	1,946	177,619	28,524,587	23	128,418	25	28,653,005	48
1938-39.....	181,514	4,512	186,026	28,283,284	11	760,354	42	29,043,638	53
1939-40.....	186,035	5,404	191,439	29,080,630	90	895,923	09	29,976,553	99
1940-41.....	185,946	5,913	191,859	28,901,932	75	1,009,766	93	29,911,699	68
1941-42.....	185,922	6,243	192,165	28,530,907	52	1,080,888	63	29,611,796	15
1942-43.....	183,601	6,374	189,975	28,861,183	55	1,114,828	30	29,976,013	85
1943-44.....	181,384	6,374	187,758	32,195,592	11	1,244,030	13	33,439,622	24
1944-45.....	187,512	6,663	194,175	39,503,027	55	1,471,977	97	40,975,005	52
1945-46.....	196,941	6,945	203,886	41,291,227	09	1,526,747	01	42,817,974	10
1946-47.....	209,029	7,311	216,340	43,529,579	98	1,615,135	59	45,444,715	57
1947-48.....	229,158	8,476	237,634	56,978,389	27	2,107,989	00	59,086,378	27
1948-49.....	251,865	9,567	261,432	64,232,210	92	2,532,074	11	66,764,285	03
1949-50.....	282,584	10,517	293,101	89,652,203	32	3,536,730	97	93,188,934	29
1950-51.....	302,173	11,198	313,371	99,268,005	53	3,901,109	01	103,169,114	54
April 1-December 31, 1951	308,825	11,335	320,160	77,340,012	49	2,996,114	67	80,336,127	18 (9 mos.)

**TABLE 6.—OLD AGE PENSIONS**

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years 1927-28 to 1950-51 and as at December 31, 1951

Fiscal Year	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	N.W.T.	Y.T.	
1927-28.....		2,712								2,768			
1928-29.....	3,507	3,953								9,203		5	
1929-30.....	2,017	4,576	5,104				26,370			5,913		4	
1930-31.....	3,287	5,557	5,834					37,334					
1931-32.....	4,382	6,486	7,190					41,300			7,643		5
1932-33.....	5,244	7,128	8,280					42,853			8,195		5
1933-34.....	6,286	8,095	9,238			6,509	46,281	1,258			9,203		5
1934-35.....	7,151	9,076	10,229			12,241	50,771	1,439			10,137		7
1935-36.....	8,086	10,011	10,862			13,044	54,040	1,659			10,706		7
1936-37.....	9,100	10,824	11,559	9,803		13,456	55,950	1,768	22,620	11,436		8	
1942-43.....	9,726	11,563	11,800	11,142		13,827	57,530	1,811	46,490	11,775		9	
1938-39.....	10,175	12,504	12,128	11,564		14,221	58,858	1,891	47,939	12,227		7	
1939-40.....	10,677	13,386	12,560	11,815		14,502	59,717	2,007	48,797	12,567		7	
1940-41.....	10,746	13,942	12,727	11,747		14,454	59,224	1,987	48,000	13,111		15	
1941-42.....	10,952	14,464	12,701	11,779		14,285	59,232	1,962	47,338	13,211		8	
1942-43.....	11,134	14,348	12,498	11,818		14,080	57,692	1,904	47,045	13,074		8	
1943-44.....	11,071	14,481	12,188	11,843		13,838	56,156	1,888	47,153	12,755		11	
1944-45.....	11,418	15,344	12,324	12,269		14,032	58,113	1,884	49,289	12,827		12	
1945-46.....	12,098	16,637	12,981	12,663		14,771	60,831	1,980	51,567	13,398		15	
1946-47.....	12,738	18,039	13,583	13,360		15,403	65,085	2,112	54,489	14,204		16	
1947-48.....	13,792	21,621	15,026	14,524		16,984	70,765	2,417	59,204	14,806		19	
1948-49.....	14,988	25,633	16,110	15,412		18,450	78,413	2,688	64,366	15,785		20	
1949-50.....	16,445	28,988	16,386	16,281	10,296	19,999	85,800	2,970	69,017	16,599		25	108
1950-51.....	17,990	31,983	17,573	16,681	11,394	20,808	91,509	3,138	73,564	17,409		26	100
Dec. 31, 1951	18,408	33,060	17,906	16,825	11,925	20,808	93,175	3,226	75,541	17,844		22	85

TABLE 7.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS

Number of pensioners in each province and in the Northwest Territories at end of fiscal years 1937-38 to 1950-51 and as at December 31, 1951

Fiscal Year	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	N.W.T.	Y.T.
1937-38.....		76	98	114		171	683	41	710	53		
1938-39.....	146	232	206	510		493	1,154	104	1,453	214		
1939-40.....	183	290	268	652		573	1,333	115	1,741	249		
1940-41.....	197	301	307	704		610	1,448	116	1,947	283		
1941-42.....	215	327	327	740		620	1,506	115	2,079	314		
1942-43.....	239	334	348	722		620	1,502	116	2,173	320		
1943-44.....	242	323	339	710		633	1,449	111	2,250	317		
1944-45.....	247	336	348	736		640	1,488	110	2,425	333		
1945-46.....	269	340	365	737		664	1,543	119	2,568	340		
1946-47.....	290	370	391	758		685	1,623	121	2,709	363	1	
1947-48.....	332	460	455	896		805	1,814	126	3,178	409	1	
1948-49.....	418	580	503	1,000		878	2,070	122	3,544	451	1	
1949-50.....	453	629	539	1,047	171	962	2,243	129	3,869	472	1	2
1950-51.....	494	661	573	1,067	317	1,048	2,408	127	4,016	484	1	2
Dec. 31, 1951....	507	684	584	1,082	385	1,028	2,491	125	3,948	498	1	2

TABLE 8.—OLD AGE PENSIONS  
Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1927-28 to 1951-52

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island		Saskatchewan		Northwest Territories		Yukon Territory	
								\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1927-28			131,482 01	242,303 86				355,528 97				191,041 97			
1928-29	62,555 15	389,340 95	427,143 44					7,085,839 82	74,125 02			333,287 70	557 74		
1929-30	320,364 90	580,841 45	632,803 60	1,032,840 50	1,128,222 34			7,671,618 81	128,855 70			585,940 81	1,387 06		
1930-31	645,367 48							6,039,971 87				1,184,539 97	1,467 71		
1931-32	322														
1932-33	827,830 32	1,176,242 75	1,362,137 75					6,827,955 49				1,316,056 68	1,419 74		
1933-34	934,387 91	1,304,144 72	1,516,372 06					69,270 71				1,328,167 28	1,398 07		
1934-35	1,070,901 17	1,478,313 72	1,655,935 90					1,479,899 16				1,455,195 60	1,719 24		
1935-36	1,234,143 63	1,672,830 60	1,797,144 68					1,651,101 61				1,582,604 69	1,655 84		
1936-37	1,408,050 79	1,820,267 82	1,922,445 33					1,764,915 17				1,61,527 62	1,722 57		
1937-38	1,580,571 47	1,935,951 01	1,987,107 00	1,333,673 27				1,886,704 46				8,386,230 60	1,757,334 87		
1938-39	1,667,361 21	2,071,000 36	1,992,400 38	1,440,354 10				9,527,468 70				1,714 56			
1939-40	1,737,003 48	2,220,133 36	2,061,961 16	1,630,249 39				9,770,254 94	193,970 13			1,821,447 64	1,898 91		
1940-41	1,778,022 33	2,331,331 44	2,106,888 53	1,651,711 34				1,913,180 85				7,637,019 04	1,821,855 50		
1941-42	1,797,083 27	2,403,312 55	2,087,719 03	1,659,883 08				1,941,171 82	9,814,403 80			7,768,257 34	1,764 41		
1942-43	1,833,573 90	2,443,152 70	2,083,379 84	1,606,402 83				1,948,074 78				1,793,786 81	1,678 06		
1943-44	2,012,796 63	2,791,081 33	2,062,533 38	1,732,670 49				2,137,241 68	10,310,621 88			1,793,832 61	1,719 24		
1944-45	2,401,386 15	3,236,033 65	2,879,947 97	2,390,977 80				2,807,890 33	12,291,117 43			2,036,345 60	2,060 66		
1945-46	2,596,214 64	3,495,895 07	2,694,083 31	2,498,871 32				2,137,241 68	10,310,621 88			2,355,406 79	2,372 68		
1946-47	2,690,423 66	3,767,623 23	2,826,747 15	2,049,019 60				2,913,972 32	13,179,415 61			2,794,902 96	3,073 80		
1947-48	3,460,114 21	5,171,017 31	3,727,392 10	3,684,280 45				3,943,563 30	17,999,370 28			3,085,226 48	3,579 07		
1948-49	3,840,154 69	6,363,588 43	4,127,088 20	3,960,422 20				4,658,579 65	20,292,451 32			4,222 08			
1949-50	5,182,534 12	9,072,333 74	5,578,635 98	5,083,758 47				6,036,446 41	22,261,442 16			5,83,070 14	5,830 75		
1950-51	5,876,261 07	10,252,116 30	5,984,845 37	5,427,021 19				3,819,074 12	27,983,944 69			7,663 78			
1951-52	4,560,331 49	8,080,866 54	4,505,367 43	4,163,006 72				6,572,261 09	30,405,393 84			9,898 84	24,484 35		
								5,030,762 74	31,286,334 41			11,231 13	37,162 89		
								5,030,800 50				5,728,980 18	5,728,980 18		
												14,078,137 52	14,078,137 52		
												4,515,745 41	4,515,745 41		
												8,955 77	21,117 37		

TABLE 9.—PENSIONS FOR BLIND PERSONS  
Federal Contributions to the Provinces and Payments in the Northwest Territories for fiscal years 1937-38 to 1951-52

Fiscal Year	Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland	Nova Scotia	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Northwest Territories	Yukon Territory
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1937-38...	3,025 41	6,412 39	8,993 93	.....	11,984 87	38,535 29	660 12	57,028 48	1,777 76	.....	.....	.....
1938-39...	19,289 81	37,323 55	33,506 77	86,516 77	74,418 04	199,162 73	10,518 23	283,451 54	36,166 98	.....	.....	.....
1939-40...	30,064 88	46,626 44	42,471 01	108,634 41	91,261 80	225,446 58	13,207 31	264,276 96	43,943 25	.....	.....	.....
1940-41...	33,607 58	50,564 46	51,033 74	121,246 70	102,375 34	248,975 03	14,337 93	336,873 46	50,752 69	.....	.....	.....
1941-42...	36,780 14	55,153 66	56,228 04	128,292 16	105,970 09	264,006 67	14,071 95	365,525 53	54,850 39	.....	.....	.....
1942-43...	40,968 59	58,363 31	59,752 81	129,535 11	107,396 82	266,354 07	15,249 06	379,129 29	58,029 54	.....	.....	.....
1943-44...	47,914 22	65,828 76	60,199 34	136,447 29	114,042 77	283,956 32	19,545 00	452,061 25	64,035 18	.....	.....	.....
1944-45...	54,289 17	73,302 49	85,129 83	161,588 00	140,059 16	331,210 30	22,011 81	530,168 53	74,238 68	.....	.....	.....
1945-46...	57,550 39	75,441 39	79,472 92	161,978 47	142,671 86	341,573 54	22,794 94	568,477 51	76,835 99	.....	.....	.....
1946-47...	62,155 43	80,435 16	86,624 75	166,413 70	147,485 80	359,859 91	24,211 44	605,760 62	81,938 78	250 00	.....	.....
1947-48...	81,255 50	108,588 79	114,974 51	217,407 30	181,815 41	464,863 54	29,423 60	801,694 04	107,611 31	355 00	.....	.....
1948-49...	104,681 19	146,888 15	134,299 87	263,020 56	224,479 81	564,315 33	30,928 72	939,002 14	124,068 34	390 00	.....	.....
1949-50...	148,295 29	204,086 42	184,497 01	337,877 50	35,662 30	311,947 90	40,336 10	1,312,410 08	161,883 66	585 00	240 00	.....
1950-51...	167,280 18	225,083 27	203,835 65	377,556 11	102,736 71	318,338 20	830,484 05	43,342 92	1,430,107 11	171,023 91	600 00	720 00
1951-52...	129,609 10	176,923 77	157,412 27	285,471 66	100,664 50	287,014 49	651,182 78	31,893 76	1,406,635 18	133,945 15	460 00	540 00

**PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL DATA FURNISHED BY THE  
PROVINCIAL PENSION AUTHORITIES**

**OLD AGE**

**PENSIONS GRANTED APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1951**

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Total.....	1,634	3,618	1,423	1,294	1,329	1,514	8,864	306	7,216	1,597	3	28,798
Male.....	872	1,909	724	598	646	706	3,825	134	3,364	882	3	13,663
Female.....	762	1,709	699	696	683	808	5,039	172	3,852	715	15	15,135
Married.....	800	1,657	681	690	788	714	3,655	145	3,515	813	2	13,460
Single.....	172	461	115	131	68	159	1,076	36	625	168	1	3,012
Widower.....	185	372	191	120	158	168	954	33	949	192	3	3,322
Widow.....	359	783	362	315	305	420	2,778	90	1,936	330	7	7,678
Separated.....	101	312	73	36	10	49	375	2	191	87	1	1,236
Divorced.....	17	33	1	2	...	4	26	...	...	7	90	
Age 70.....	1,002	1,962	921	988	999	972	3,892	133	4,584	848	...	16,301
71-75.....	425	1,193	326	198	215	313	2,778	81	1,565	603	...	7,697
76-80.....	135	323	112	60	76	140	1,317	50	645	98	3	2,957
Over 80.....	72	140	64	48	39	89	877	42	422	50	...	1,843
In cities.....	648	2,367	640	223	174	152	4,170	46	3,240	469	3	12,132
In towns.....	229	355	201	163	196	337	1,762	28	685	274	...	4,230
In villages.....	273	357	366	52	959	618	1,755	22	3,142	440	...	8,014
On farms.....	484	539	216	850	...	377	1,177	210	149	414	...	4,422
Own homes.....	667	1,614	459	707	902	877	3,506	152	1,377	823	2	11,086
Rented houses or apts.....	160	660	286	184	54	92	1,174	16	1,726	143	1	4,496
Children-relatives.....	480	632	514	374	339	464	3,867	109	3,428	380	...	10,637
Rented rooms.....	262	569	127	11	3	61	202	19	476	200	...	1,930
Public institutions.....	28	56	16	9	19	14	115	7	...	20	...	284
Private institutions.....	37	37	21	9	12	6	...	3	209	31	...	365
Receives—												
Other pension.....	129	427	88	84	66	156	684	...	429	23	...	2,086
Annuity.....	6	91	12	4	...	8	167	...	102	68	...	458
Unemployment insurance.....	42	236	30	32	5	18	368	1	339	4	1	1,076

Number proving age by—

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Certificate of birth....	716	2,286	719	160	116	213	4,300	89	483	804	...	9,886
2. Certificate of baptism....	256	330	156	590	814	558	1,474	86	6,314	137	...	10,715
3. Census records alone....	303	82	401	366	121	578	1,384	118	153	430	2	3,938
4. Old Bible records....	50	...	2	51	34	19	188	12	29	4	...	389
5. Other records.....	309	920	145	127	244	146	1,518	1	237	222	1	3,870

**NUMBER OWNING NO REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY**

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Single.....	316	804	268	173	191	204	1,725	65	1,888	337	...	5,971
Married couples.....	146	156	98	51	81	48	977	18	1,393	156	...	3,124

NUMBER OWNING PROPERTY  
SINGLE PENSIONERS

	Real												Personal												Real and Personal											
	Aff.	B.C.	M.E.	N.E.d.	Z.B.	Z.C.	Q.E.	P.E.I.	Y.T.	Total	Aff.	B.C.	M.E.	N.E.d.	Z.B.	Z.C.	Q.E.	P.E.I.	Y.T.	Total	Aff.	B.C.	M.E.	N.E.d.	Z.B.	Z.C.	Q.E.	P.E.I.	Y.T.	Total						
Less than \$ 500	33	25	21	4	66	18	289	10	48	592	162	359	197	136	54	173	1,486	11	681	55	3,314	14	22	26	16	30	69	1,116	10	16	1,319					
\$ 501 — 1,000	26	46	18	3	28	16	357	10	56	48	17	308	128	31	13	3	24	370	6	86	17	631	26	71	21	48	18	437	15	43	20					
1,001 — 1,500	12	29	11	2	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	13	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20			
1,501 — 2,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
2,001 — 3,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
3,001 — 4,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
4,001 — 5,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
5,001 — 6,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
6,001 — 7,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
7,001 — 8,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
8,001 — 9,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
9,001 — 10,000	1	1	1	1	3	3	23	8	137	2	227	5	30	49	351	25	57	17	38	31	3	24	370	6	51	14	429	21	40	18	347	18	24	20		
Over 10,000																																				

NUMBER OWNING PROPERTY  
MARRIED COUPLES

	Real												Personal												Real and Personal											
	Aff.	B.C.	M.E.	N.E.d.	Z.B.	Z.C.	Q.E.	P.E.I.	Y.T.	Total	Aff.	B.C.	M.E.	N.E.d.	Z.B.	Z.C.	Q.E.	P.E.I.	Y.T.	Total	Aff.	B.C.	M.E.	N.E.d.	Z.B.	Z.C.	Q.E.	P.E.I.	Y.T.	Total						
Less than \$ 500	38	10	32	2	85	54	357	1	125	40	742	55	111	88	94	14	60	1,033	3	796	25	2,279	13	8	33	18	32	108	530	3	10	1	76t			
\$ 501 — 1,000	42	38	31	2	85	61	10	456	131	74	875	19	34	15	16	7	16	380	5	172	21	375	52	60	63	136	63	136	407	8	81	81	33	893		
1,001 — 1,500	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
1,501 — 2,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
2,001 — 3,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
3,001 — 4,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
4,001 — 5,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
5,001 — 6,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
6,001 — 7,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
7,001 — 8,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
8,001 — 9,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
9,001 — 10,000	1	1	1	1	3	25	1	16	2	239	52	122	376	14	20	4	9	3	17	247	1	88	6	402	67	67	51	60	63	63	323	8	81	81	33	893
Over 10,000																																				

Note: Provinces generally take as value of real property the assessed value less encumbrances.

## BLIND

PENSIONS GRANTED APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1951

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Total.....	45	60	43	51	85	65	234	8	279	32	....	902
Male.....	30	41	25	28	49	22	122	4	124	19	....	464
Female.....	15	19	18	23	36	43	112	4	155	13	....	438
Married.....	20	23	16	21	50	27	88	4	127	12	....	388
Single.....	12	10	11	16	17	24	70	2	94	8	....	264
Widower.....	6	10	4	3	8	4	18	1	11	4	....	69
Widow.....	3	7	9	7	8	4	47	....	38	7	....	130
Separated.....	4	10	3	2	2	6	11	1	9	1	....	49
Divorced.....				2							....	2
Age 21.....				7	2	6	11	....	21		....	49
22-30.....	3	1	4	4	5	4	17	1	28	5	....	72
31-40.....	3	5	1	4	7	6	19	....	27	1	....	73
41-50.....	7	1	5	5	14	8	26	....	38	4	....	108
51-60.....	10	7	7	9	18	10	28	....	67	6	....	162
61-70.....	18	32	23	19	21	25	90	6	88	13	....	335
71-80.....	2	6	3	2	17	4	22	....	5	1	....	62
Over 80.....	2	6	....	1	1	2	21	1	5	2	....	41
In cities.....	28	47	25	11	12	6	119	2	113	10	....	373
In towns.....	6	2	6	7	6	15	52	....	36	3	....	133
In villages.....	7	4	9	4	67	28	36	....	119	6	....	280
On farms.....	4	7	3	29	....	16	27	6	11	13	....	116
Own homes.....	11	19	10	23	44	26	79	5	57	14	....	288
Rented houses or apts.....	8	8	9	6	2	6	36	1	64	2	....	142
Children-relatives.....	10	18	16	20	34	29	96	2	123	11	....	359
Rented rooms.....	10	12	7	2	1	3	15	....	27	3	....	80
Public institutions.....	5	2	1	....	1	1	8	....	1	1	....	19
Private institutions.....	1	1	....	....	3	....	....	....	8	1	....	14
Receives—												
Other pension.....	1	7	2	3	5	....	23	....	12	....	....	53
Annuity.....		3	....	....	....	....	6	....	2	....	....	11
Unemployment insurance.....	2	1	3	....	2	....	8	....	11	....	....	27

Number proving age by—

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Certificate of birth...	21	39	22	4	2	16	107	2	7	9	....	229
2. Certificate of baptism...	4	2	3	30	59	21	47	5	262	2	....	435
3. Census records alone...	7	1	15	4	6	17	33	1	14	....	....	98
4. Old Bible records....	1	....	....	3	5	1	3	....	1	....	....	14
5. Other records.....	12	18	3	10	13	10	44	....	9	7	....	126

## NUMBER OWNING NO REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
Single.....	16	28	18	20	28	15	73	....	97	6	....	301
Married couples.....	4	2	6	2	16	2	38	....	50	3	....	123

**NUMBER OWNING PROPERTY  
SINGLE PENSIONERS**

MARRIED COUPLES

**Note:** Provinces generally take as value of real property the assessed value less encumbrances.

## OLD AGE

APPLICATIONS DECLINED APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1951

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Not 70.....	58	110	50	31	.....	65	347	42	184	207	.....	1,094
2. Unable to prove age.....	2	29	1	1	.....	5	41	.....	55	14	.....	148
3. Too much income.....	65	67	39	82	42	114	418	19	478	118	.....	1,442
4. Not sufficient residence.....	5	6	3	2	.....	3	15	.....	11	4	.....	49
5. Unable to prove residence.....	1	5	1	.....	.....	3	18	1	.....	13	.....	42
6. Transferred property.....	11	12	25	.....	.....	1	123	3	46	42	.....	263
7. War veterans allowance.....	1	1	2	9	.....	3	33	3	8	3	.....	63
8. Pension for blind.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
9. An Indian.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
10. Refused information.....	21	16	13	2	.....	7	40	.....	85	28	.....	212
11. Assistance private source.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	1
12. In mental hospital.....	1	3	.....	1	.....	.....	9	.....	2	4	.....	20
13. Entitled to support.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
14. Whereabouts unknown.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	7

## APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Withdrawn.....	49	172	28	41	.....	59	558	44	198	109	.....	1,218
2. Died before grant.....	23	92	17	7	6	19	1	1	71	10	.....	247

## BLIND

APPLICATIONS DECLINED APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1951

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Not 21.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	6
2. Unable to prove age.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	3	.....	3	.....	.....	8
3. Too much income.....	7	.....	1	3	1	15	19	.....	47	9	.....	102
4. Not sufficient residence.....	1	2	.....	2	1	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	9
5. Unable to prove residence.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Transferred property.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	2	2
7. War Veterans allowance.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	4
8. An Indian.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
9. Refused information.....	2	.....	.....	9	.....	.....	1	.....	12	1	.....	25
10. Assistance private source.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11. In mental hospital.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
12. Entitled to support.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13. Unable to meet blind test.....	11	8	11	71	28	51	21	1	395	16	.....	613

## APPLICATIONS NOT COMPLETED

	Alta.	B.C.	Man.	N.B.	Nfld.	N.S.	Ont.	P.E.I.	Que.	Sask.	Y.T.	Total
1. Withdrawn.....	2	3	1	.....	.....	2	5	.....	18	1	.....	30
2. Died before grant.....	.....	.....	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	9	1	.....	14

# APPENDIX I

## THE OLD AGE SECURITY ACT

---

### CHAP. 18.

#### An Act to provide for Old Age Security.

[Assented to 21st December, 1951.]

**H**IS Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

- Short title. **1.** This Act may be cited as *The Old Age Security Act*.
- Definitions.  
"application".  
"cheque".  
"pension".  
"pensioner".  
Payment of pension.  
Eligibility.  
Limitations.
- 2.** In this Act,
- (a) "application" means an application for pension;
  - (b) "cheque" means any instrument issued in payment of a pension;
  - (c) "pension" means the monthly pension authorized to be paid under this Act;
  - (d) "pensioner" means a person whose application has been approved.
- 3.** (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the regulations, from and after the first day of January, nineteen hundred and fifty-two, a monthly pension of forty dollars may be paid in respect of every person who
- (a) has attained the age of seventy years; and
  - (b) has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the day on which his application is approved, or, if he has not so resided,
    - (i) has been present in Canada prior to those twenty years for an aggregate period at least equal to twice the aggregate periods of absence from Canada during those twenty years, and
    - (ii) has resided in Canada for at least one year immediately preceding the day on which his application is approved.
- (2) No pension may be paid to any person unless he is qualified under subsection one and an application therefor has been made by him or on his behalf and the application has been approved; and, except as provided in this Act, no pension may be paid to any person in respect of any period prior to the day on which his application is approved.

(3) Subject to the conditions specified in the regulations, the Minister of National Health and Welfare is entitled, for the purpose of ascertaining the age of any pensioner or any applicant for a pension, to obtain from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, upon request, any information respecting the age of a pensioner or applicant that is contained in the returns of any census taken more than thirty years before the date of the request.

**4.** (1) Payment of pension to any person shall commence in the first month after the application therefor has been approved, but where an application is approved after the last day of the month in which it was received the approval may be effective as of such earlier date, not prior to the day on which the application was received, as may be prescribed by regulation.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act the pension shall continue to be paid during the lifetime of the pensioner, and shall cease with the payment for the month in which the pensioner dies.

**5.** (1) Where a pensioner absents himself from Canada, payment of his pension shall be suspended immediately following the payment for the month in which he so absents himself, but may be resumed when the pensioner returns; and where the pensioner returns to Canada within six months from the time he left Canada, the pension upon being resumed may also be paid for a period of such absence not exceeding three months in any calendar year.

(2) Where a pensioner is convicted of an offence and sentenced to a term of imprisonment exceeding thirty days, payment of his pension shall be suspended when his term of imprisonment commences, but may be resumed upon the release of the pensioner from imprisonment.

(3) Where a pensioner fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the regulations, payment of his pension may be suspended, and where a pension is so suspended, payment may be resumed when the pensioner has complied with such provisions.

**6.** The Governor in Council may make regulations for carrying the purposes and provisions of this Act into effect and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, may make regulations

(a) prescribing the time, manner and form of making applications, and the information and evidence to be furnished in connection therewith and the procedure to be followed in dealing with and approving applications;

(b) prescribing the circumstances that shall be deemed to constitute, or prescribing what shall be or shall be deemed to be, an application by or on behalf of persons

who are qualified for a pension under this Act and who, on or before the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-one, applied for or were granted a pension as defined in the *Old Age Pensions Act*, and prescribing the time at which such applications shall be deemed to have been made or approved;

- (c) prescribing the information and evidence to be furnished by pensioners and the circumstances under and the form in which such information or evidence shall be submitted;
- (d) defining residence in Canada and defining intervals of absence from Canada preceding an application that shall be deemed not to have interrupted residence in Canada;
- (e) providing for the suspension of the payment of a pension during an investigation into the eligibility of the pensioner and the reinstatement or resumption of the payment thereof; and
- (f) providing for the payment of a pension to any person or agency on behalf of a pensioner where the pensioner is by reason of infirmity, illness, insanity or other cause incapable of managing his own affairs, and prescribing the manner in which such a pension shall be administered and expended for the benefit of the pensioner and accounted for.

Pension not assignable.

**7.** A pension shall not be assigned, charged, attached, anticipated or given as security, and any transaction purporting to assign, charge, attach, anticipate or give as security a pension is void.

Return of payment to which recipient not entitled.

Recovery.

**8.** (1) A person who has been paid or has obtained a pension payment to which he was not entitled shall forthwith return the cheque or the amount thereof.

(2) Where a person receives or obtains a pension payment to which he is not entitled, the amount thereof may be recovered at any time as a debt due to the Crown, and where that person is or subsequently becomes a pensioner, the amount of any such indebtedness may be deducted and retained out of any pension payable to him.

Offences.

**9.** (1) Every person who

- (a) knowingly makes a false or misleading statement in any application or makes an application that by reason of any non-disclosure of facts is false or misleading or obtains any pension payment by false pretences;
- (b) being the payee thereof, negotiates or attempts to negotiate any cheque for a pension to which he is not entitled;
- (c) fails to return a cheque or the amount thereof as required by section eight; or

(d) discloses or communicates any information or evidence obtained under this Act or the regulations unless the disclosure or communication is necessary for the administration of this Act or the regulations or is required by law,

is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction Penalty. to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to both fine and imprisonment.

(2) No information or complaint for an offence under this Act is open to objection on the ground that the information or complaint is for more than one matter of complaint or that it relates to more than one offence.

(3) No prosecution for an offence against this Act shall be commenced after the expiration of five years from the time of its commission.

**10.** (1) There shall be imposed, levied and collected an Old Age Security tax of two per centum on the sale price of all goods in respect of which tax is payable under section eighty-six of the *Excise Tax Act* at the same time, by the same persons and subject to the same conditions as the tax payable under that section.

Old Age  
Security  
tax.  
R.S., c. 179

(2) Subsection one shall be read and construed as though the tax imposed thereby were imposed by section eighty-six of the *Excise Tax Act*; and all the provisions of the *Excise Tax Act* shall be read and construed as though the tax imposed by subsection one were an addition to the tax imposed by the provisions of the said section eighty-six.

(3) Every individual liable to pay tax under Part I of *The Income Tax Act* for a taxation year shall pay an Old Age Security tax for the year equal to the lesser of

Amount  
of tax.  
1947-48, c. 52.

(a) two per centum of the taxpayer's taxable income for the year; or

(b) sixty dollars.

(4) Subsection three shall be read and construed as though the tax imposed thereby were provided for by section thirty-one of *The Income Tax Act*; and all the provisions of *The Income Tax Act*, other than section thirty-one thereof, shall be read and construed as though the tax imposed by subsection three were provided for by a provision in the said section thirty-one as an addition to the tax computed under the actual provisions of that section.

(5) Every corporation liable to pay tax under Part I of *The Income Tax Act*, other than a corporation liable to pay tax under section sixty-three thereof, shall pay an Old Age Security tax for the year equal to two per centum of its taxable income for the year.

(6) Subsection five shall be read and construed as though the tax imposed thereby were provided for by a provision in Part I of *The Income Tax Act*; and all the

provisions of *The Income Tax Act*, other than section thirty-seven thereof, shall be read and construed as though the tax imposed by subsection five were provided for by a provision in the said Part I as an addition to the tax otherwise payable under that Part.

**Coming into force.**

(7) Subsections one and two shall come into force on the first day of January, nineteen hundred and fifty-two, and shall apply to all goods imported or taken out of warehouse for consumption on or after that day and to goods imported before that day for which no entry for consumption was made before that day.

**Application.**

(8) Subsections three to six, inclusive, are applicable to the 1952 and subsequent taxation years except that, for the 1952 taxation year,

(a) the rate of two per centum set out in subsection three shall be read as one per centum and the amount of sixty dollars set out in the said subsection three shall be read as thirty dollars; and

(b) the tax payable by a corporation under subsection five is that proportion of the tax for the year computed under that subsection that the number of days in the portion of the taxation year that is in the 1952 calendar year is of the number of days in the whole taxation year.

**Old Age Security Fund.**

**11.** (1) There shall be established an account in the Consolidated Revenue Fund to be known as the Old Age Security Fund to which shall be credited from time to time in respect of each fiscal year

(a) an amount equal, in the opinion of the Minister of National Revenue, to

(i) the Old Age Security tax collected, in that year before the time of crediting, by virtue of section ten, minus

(ii) the aggregate of

(A) amounts previously credited in respect of that year under this paragraph, and

(B) such amount as should be allowed for refunds that have been made or will have to be made; and

(b) the amount of each temporary loan made pursuant to this section.

(2) All pensions payable under this Act shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund and charged to the Old Age Security Fund.

**Payment of pensions out of C.R.F.**

**Temporary loans.**

(3) If the Minister of Finance is of opinion that the amount to the credit of the Old Age Security Fund is or will be less than the amount required to pay the pensions payable under this Act, he may from time to time direct that amounts be credited to the Fund by way of temporary loans and the amount of such loans shall be charged to the

Fund by way of repayment at such time as the Minister of Finance may direct.

(4) The Minister of Finance shall annually report to Parliament the temporary loans, if any, made to the Fund pursuant to this section, and whether, in his opinion, the revenues of the Fund are or will be sufficient in the ensuing year to meet the charges on the Fund without further loans and, if it appears that the revenues will not be sufficient, he shall state what measures he recommends for the purpose of increasing the revenues of the Fund.

**12.** This Act shall be administered by the Minister of National Health and Welfare who shall submit to Parliament annually, as soon as possible after the termination of each fiscal year, if Parliament is then in session, or, if not, as soon as possible after the commencement of the next session of Parliament, a report covering the administration of this Act and including an account of receipts and disbursements during the previous fiscal year.

**13.** (1) Subject to section thirteen of *The Blind Persons Act*, 1951, c. 38. No further contributions under *Old Age Pensions Act*.  
no contributions shall be made by the Government of Canada under the provisions of the *Old Age Pensions Act* in respect of any pension, as defined in that Act, paid by any province in respect of any period after the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-one.

(2) The *Old Age Pensions Act* is repealed on a day to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor in Council. *Repeal.*

(3) That portion of subsection one of section eighty-six of the *Excise Tax Act* before paragraph (a) thereof is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

**“86.** (1) There shall be imposed, levied and collected a consumption or sales tax of eight per centum on the sale price of all goods”.

Consumption  
or sales tax  
of eight per  
centum.

(4) Subsection three shall come into force on the first day of January, nineteen hundred and fifty-two, and shall apply to all goods imported or taken out of warehouse for consumption on or after that day and to goods imported before that day for which no entry for consumption was made before that day.

Coming  
into force.

## **THE OLD AGE SECURITY REGULATIONS**

### *Short Title*

- 1.** These regulations may be cited as The Old Age Security Regulations.

### *Interpretation*

- 2.** (1) In these regulations,

(a) "Act" means The Old Age Security Act;

(b) "application form" means the form authorized by the Minister for making application for pension;

(c) "Director" means the person holding the office of Director of Old Age Security;

(d) "Minister" means the Minister of National Health and Welfare;

(e) "Regional Director" means the person holding the office of Regional Director of Old Age Security of the province for which he is appointed.

(2) In these regulations, residence and presence in Newfoundland prior to the date of union of that province with Canada shall be regarded as residence and presence in Canada, respectively.

### *Administration*

**3.** (1) The Director and Regional Directors and such officers, clerks and employees as may be appointed, shall respectively perform the functions and duties and carry out the responsibilities prescribed by the Act and these regulations and by the Minister.

(2) The Director may, in such manner as he may from time to time determine, and as approved by the Minister, delegate to Regional Directors any duty, power or discretion conferred on him by these regulations.

(3) The Director may issue such instructions to Regional Directors, officers, clerks and employees as he considers necessary for the efficient administration of the Act and these regulations.

### *Application*

**4.** (1) The Director shall, in such manner as he may from time to time determine, cause application forms to be made available to all persons who desire to make application for pension.

(2) Application for pension may be made by any person who alleges that he has attained the age of sixty-nine years and six months.

(3) Application shall be deemed to have been made only when an application form completed by an applicant or on his behalf as provided in section 5 is actually received in the office of the Regional Director for the province in which the applicant is resident.

**5.** (1) Where a person is unable to complete an application due to infirmity, illness, or any other valid reason, such application may be completed on his behalf by a responsible person.

(2) Where an Indian at any time has received the allowance to aged Indians from the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, application may be made on his behalf by that Department in such form as may be authorized by the Minister.

(3) Where a person, before December 31, 1951, received a pension under the Old Age Pensions Act (Canada), or has applied for such pension, information made available by the appropriate pension authority as to such fact, including information regarding the age and residence of the person concerned, shall be deemed to be an application made as of December 31, 1951, on behalf of such person.

(4) Where a person has been in receipt of assistance pursuant to The Old Age Assistance Act (Canada), or an allowance pursuant to The Blind Persons Act (Canada), and has attained the age of sixty-nine years and six months, an application form completed on his behalf by the appropriate provincial authority when received in the office of the Regional Director of the province where the person resides shall be deemed to be an application duly made on behalf of such person under this Act.

**6.** (1) The Director shall examine or cause to be examined each application received and if satisfied that the applicant is eligible for pension under the Act and these regulations he shall so certify or cause it to be certified and thereupon the application shall be approved and, subject to subsection (2), the approval shall be effective on the last day of the month in which such certificate was given.

(2) Where approval of an application for pension is given after the last day of the month in which the application was received and delay in approval has resulted from circumstances beyond the control of the applicant, the Director may, in his discretion, declare that such approval shall be effective as of an earlier date which shall in no case be prior to the last day of the month in which the application was received, or the last day of the month in which the applicant attains the age of seventy years, whichever is the later.

**7.** Where an application by or on behalf of a person is approved at a time when such person is temporarily absent from Canada and such person returns to Canada within a period of six months from the effective date of approval, the period of his absence following such approval shall be deemed to commence on the first day of the month following the month in which approval is given.

#### Age

**8.** (1) For the purpose of enabling the Director to consider the eligibility of an applicant in respect of age, there shall be furnished by the applicant, or on his behalf, a certificate of the applicant's birth or of his baptism.

(2) If neither of the certificates referred to in subsection (1) is obtainable, there shall be furnished by the applicant such documentary or other evidence, as may be obtainable from which the applicant's age may be determined.

(3) If the Director is unable to obtain information as provided in subsections (1) and (2), he may request the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to make a search of the census records for information as to the age of the applicant subject to the following conditions:

(a) any request for census information as to age shall be made in the form prescribed by the Dominion Statistician and shall bear the signed consent of the person concerning whom the information is

sought and shall provide such specific information as may be required for the purpose of making a search in the census records; and

(b) any information supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shall be confidential and shall not be used for any other purpose than that of establishing the age of the applicant as required under this Act, The Old Age Assistance Act, or The Blind Persons Act, as the case may be.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (4) of Section 9, the Director shall not be bound to accept any evidence respecting the age of an applicant as final and conclusive and any evidence submitted to or obtained by the Director as proof of age may be rebutted at any time.

**9.** (1) If after thorough search and inquiry the Director is unable to obtain from the applicant or elsewhere satisfactory and suitable evidence as to the age of the applicant, he may submit the case, together with any evidence that he may obtain relevant thereto, to a tribunal as herein provided for an opinion as to the age of the applicant.

(2) Such tribunal shall consist of a member to be designated by the applicant, a member to be designated by the Director and a third member, who shall be chairman, to be chosen by such other two members.

(3) The tribunal in giving an opinion as to the age of the applicant shall be entitled to take into account any facts, circumstances or evidence, documentary or other, including physical characteristics of the applicant, relevant to the determination of the issue.

(4) The opinion of the tribunal shall be the opinion of the majority thereof and, subject to rebutting evidence being received at any time thereafter, shall be accepted by the Director.

#### *Residence*

**10.** For the purpose of enabling the Director to consider the eligibility of an applicant in respect of residence in Canada, there shall be furnished by the applicant, or on his behalf, a statement giving full particulars of all periods of residence in Canada and of all absences therefrom relevant to such eligibility.

**11.** (1) Where an applicant alleges that he has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date of his application, absences from Canada during such period which are of a temporary nature, and which when totalled do not exceed twelve hundred days, shall be deemed not to have interrupted the residence in Canada of such applicant during such twenty years, but the provisions of this subsection shall not apply in respect of persons coming within the provisions of subsections (3) and (4).

(2) Where an applicant has not resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date of his application, but has been present in Canada prior to such twenty years for an aggregate period at least equal to twice the aggregate periods of absence from Canada during those twenty years, and alleges that he has resided in Canada for at least one year immediately preceding the date of his application, any absences from Canada during such year which are of a temporary nature shall be deemed not to have interrupted the residence in Canada of such applicant during such year, but the provisions of this subsection shall not apply in respect of persons coming within the provisions of subsections (3) and (4).

(3) Where an applicant while a resident of Canada has temporarily absented himself therefrom while

- (a) employed on a ship or on a fishing boat;
- (b) employed on trains running out of Canada, operated by any railway company having its head office in Canada;
- (c) employed in seasonal employment, such as lumbering and harvesting, for not more than six months in any one year;
- (d) employed by the United Nations or one of its specialized agencies; or
- (e) while employed as a representative of or as a member of a Canadian firm or corporation;

and at the termination of such employment returned to Canada, he shall be deemed to have continued to reside in Canada during such absence if during the period thereof he had in Canada a permanent place of abode to which, whenever he was absent therefrom, he had the intention of returning, or he maintained in Canada a self-contained domestic establishment.

(4) Where an applicant while a resident of Canada has absented himself therefrom

- (a) while he was employed and paid by the Government of Canada or by the government or a municipal corporation of any province;
- (b) pursuant to and in connection with the requirements of his duties as a member of the Canadian Forces, or while he was engaged in work for Canada connected with the prosecution of any war, or while he was a member of the armed forces of any ally of Canada during any such war; or
- (c) while engaged in missionary work with any religious group or organization;

and at the termination of such duties or employment returned to Canada, he shall be deemed to have continued to reside in Canada during the period of such duties or employment.

(5) An applicant who is a married woman or a widow and who was absent from Canada with her husband while he was absent from Canada in any of the circumstances provided for by subsection (3) or (4), shall, during the period of such absence with him, be deemed to have continued to reside in Canada.

#### *Further Information and Investigation Before or After Approval of the Application*

**12.** (1) The Director may at any time before or after approval is given to an application require the applicant to furnish such further information or evidence regarding the eligibility of the applicant for pension as the Director may consider necessary.

(2) The Director may at any time cause such investigation to be made as he may consider necessary into the eligibility of a person to receive a pension, including the capacity of the pensioner to manage his own affairs.

#### *Incapacity of Pensioner*

**13.** (1) Where the Director considers that a pensioner is, by reason of infirmity, illness, insanity or other cause, incapable of managing his own affairs, the Director may direct the pension to be paid to any person or agency whom he may appoint to act on behalf of such pensioner.

(2) The Director shall furnish to such person or agency directions regarding the administration and expenditure of the pension as the Director may consider in the best interest of the pensioner.

(3) Any person or agency so employed shall account for the pension payments received and the disbursements made, the account to be in such form and to be made at such times as the Director may indicate.

*Notice By, or on Behalf of, a Pensioner*

**14.** (1) Where a pensioner has absented himself from Canada for a period in excess of one month he shall forthwith give notice thereof in writing to the Regional Director and within one month of his return to Canada shall notify the Regional Director thereof.

(2) Where a pensioner is convicted of an offence and sentenced to a term of imprisonment exceeding thirty days, he shall upon the commencement of such imprisonment notify the Regional Director thereof and within one month after his release from such imprisonment he shall notify the Regional Director accordingly.

(3) A pensioner shall notify the Regional Director of the address to which his pension shall be sent and in the event of any change of his address in Canada shall forthwith notify the Regional Director in writing thereof.

(4) Where the pension is being paid to any person or agency to be administered and expended for the benefit of the pensioner, the notices required by this section shall be given by such person or agency.

*Suspension of Payments*

**15.** (1) The Director shall suspend the payment of the pension in respect of any pensioner where it appears to him that such pensioner is ineligible for payment of the pension and may suspend the payment where it appears to him that further inquiry into the eligibility of the pensioner is necessary, and such suspension shall continue until evidence satisfactory to the Director is given that such pensioner is eligible for the pension.

(2) On the resumption of payment of any pension which has been suspended under the provisions of subsection (1), the Director shall cause payment of the pension to be made for any portion of the period of suspension during which the pensioner was eligible for pension.

(3) Where a cheque issued to, or on behalf of, a pensioner remains uncashed at the time of his death and has been returned, another cheque for the same amount may be issued to the personal representative of such pensioner or, if there is no personal representative, then to such person or agency as the Director may designate to receive the cheque on behalf of the estate of the pensioner.

*Recovery of Overpayments*

**16.** The Director shall recover from a pensioner any sum improperly paid by way of pension whether such sum was paid as the result of non-disclosure of facts, misrepresentation, or any other cause, and, if he is unable to recover the whole of such sum, the Director shall suspend the payment of the pension of such pensioner until the aggregate amount of the suspended payments equals the sum improperly paid less any amount that has been recovered prior to such suspension; where the pensioner has not been guilty of fraud or misrepresentation the Director may reduce the pension by such an amount as will recover the overpayment in a time considered by the Director to be reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

## APPENDIX II

# THE OLD AGE ASSISTANCE ACT

### CHAP. 55.

An Act to provide for Old Age Assistance.

[Assented to 30th June, 1951.]

HIS Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as The Old Age Assistance Act. Short title.
2. In this Act Definitions.
  - (a) "agreement" means an agreement made under section three; "agreement".
  - (b) "application" means an application for old age assistance; "application".
  - (c) "assistance" means old age assistance provided under provincial law to the persons and under the conditions specified in this Act and the regulations; "assistance".
  - (d) "Minister" means the Minister of National Health and Welfare; "Minister".
  - (e) "provincial authority" means the officer or body charged with the administration of the provincial law; "provincial authority".
  - (f) "provincial law" means a law of a province that provides for the payment of old age assistance to the persons and under the conditions specified in this Act and the regulations, and authorizes the province to enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada in accordance with this Act; "provincial law".
  - (g) "province" includes the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory; "province".
  - (h) "recipient" means a person to whom assistance has been granted, and includes an applicant for assistance; and "recipient".
  - (i) "unmarried person" includes a widow, a widower, a divorced person and a married person who, in the opinion of the provincial authority, is living separate and apart from his spouse. "unmarried person".
3. (1) The Minister, with the approval of the Governor in Council, may, on behalf of the Government of Canada, make an agreement with a province to provide for the payment to the province, in accordance with this Act and the regulations, of Agreements with provinces.

amounts in respect of assistance paid by the province pursuant to provincial law, not exceeding, in respect of any recipient, fifty per cent. of forty dollars monthly or of the amount of assistance paid by the province monthly to the recipient, whichever is the lesser.

**Qualifications.**

(2) Payments to a province pursuant to this section shall be made only in respect of a recipient who

(a) at the date of the proposed commencement of assistance payments to him

(i) has attained the age of sixty-five years, and

(ii) has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding that date, or if he has not so resided, has been present in Canada prior to those twenty years for an aggregate period equal to twice the aggregate period of absences from Canada during those twenty years; and

(b) is not in receipt of an allowance under *The Blind Persons Act* or *The War Veterans' Allowance Act, 1946*, or a pension under *The Old Age Security Act*; and

(c) is,

(i) an unmarried person, and his income, inclusive of assistance, is not more than seven hundred and twenty dollars a year, or

(ii) married and living with his spouse and the total income, inclusive of assistance, of the recipient and his spouse is not more than twelve hundred dollars a year, or

(iii) married and living with his spouse who is blind within the meaning of *The Blind Persons Act* and the total income, inclusive of assistance, of the recipient and his spouse is not more than thirteen hundred and twenty dollars a year.

**Amount of payments by Government of Canada.**

4. An agreement with a province shall contain a covenant by the Government of Canada to pay to the province each month the amount that the Government of Canada is at that time authorized to pay to the province under this Act.

**Assistance payable monthly in arrears.**

5. (1) The assistance in respect of which the Government of Canada is authorized by this Act to make payments shall be payable monthly in arrears.

**Where recipient dies.**

(2) Where a province pays assistance in respect of a recipient for the whole of the month in which the recipient dies the Government of Canada shall make payments in respect thereof in accordance with section three.

**Census records.**

6. Subject to the conditions specified in the regulations, a provincial authority is entitled, for the purpose of ascertaining the age of a recipient, to obtain from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics any information respecting the age of a recipient that is contained in the returns of any census taken more than thirty years before the date of the application for such information.

- 7.** In every agreement the province shall, subject to section three, Provisions  
of agree-  
ment.
- (a) specify the minimum age of a recipient and any other conditions of eligibility set forth in the provincial law;
  - (b) specify the maximum assistance to be paid by it to a recipient;
  - (c) provide for the reduction of such maximum assistance by the amount of any income received by a recipient in excess of an amount to be specified in such agreement; and
  - (d) covenant and agree
    - (i) that the provincial authority will consider applications from persons resident in the province in the manner prescribed by regulation, and where satisfied that a recipient is properly and lawfully entitled to assistance, under the conditions specified in this Act, the regulations and the agreement, grant assistance to such recipient in the amount specified in the agreement;
    - (ii) that where a recipient, during the last ten hundred and ninety-five days that he was present in Canada prior to reaching the age of sixty-five years, or prior to making application for assistance, whichever is the later, was present in the province for a greater number of days than in any other province, the province will reimburse any other province that is paying the assistance to the extent of fifty per cent. of the amount of the assistance;
    - (iii) that the province will, where a recipient who has been granted assistance transfers his residence to such province from another province, pay the assistance;
    - (iv) that where a recipient, to whom the province has granted assistance, transfers his residence to another province with which no agreement is in force, the province will continue to pay the assistance to such recipient;
    - (v) that where a recipient, who has been granted assistance, transfers his residence to some place out of Canada, the province will discontinue payment of the assistance and not resume payment thereof until such recipient has again become resident in Canada;
    - (vi) to make statutory provision for penalties to ensure the proper carrying out of the provincial law and to provide that no assistance shall be subject to alienation or transfer by a recipient or to attachment or seizure in satisfaction of any claim against him, and that the receipt of the assistance shall not by itself constitute a disqualification from voting at any provincial or municipal election;
    - (vii) that the province will furnish without charge to the provincial authority of any province, a certificate of the date of the birth of any recipient born within the province;
    - (viii) to maintain proper and adequate records and accounts respecting assistance payments, and to permit of an examination, inspection and audit by the Government of Canada of all such payments and of the records and accounts with respect thereto;

- (ix) that where a recipient or his spouse has, within the five years preceding the date of application, made an assignment or transfer of property the consideration for which is, in the opinion of the provincial authority, inadequate, or where it appears to the provincial authority that any assignment or transfer of property made by a recipient or his spouse was made for the purpose of qualifying the recipient for assistance, or for a larger amount of assistance than he otherwise would be entitled to receive, or to prevent recovery of any claim under the provincial law, the province will deem the property so assigned or transferred to be property of the recipient or his spouse owned at the date of the application as though the assignment or transfer had not been made;
- (x) that where recovery of the amount of any assistance is made from a recipient or his estate, the province will furnish to the Government of Canada monthly a report thereof, and pay to the Government of Canada an amount that bears the same ratio to the amount so recovered as the total amounts paid by the Government of Canada in respect of assistance payments made to such recipient bears to the total of such assistance payments.

Payments  
out of  
C.R.F.

**8.** All sums of money payable to a province in pursuance of an agreement shall be paid by the Minister of Finance on the certificate of the Minister out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and all such payments shall be made subject to the conditions specified in this Act and the regulations and subject to the observance of the covenants, agreements and undertakings contained in the agreement.

Duration of  
agreements.

**9.** (1) Subject to subsection two, every agreement shall continue in force so long as the provincial law remains in operation or until the expiration of ten years from the day upon which notice of an intention to terminate the agreement is given by the Minister, with the approval of the Governor in Council, to the province with which the agreement was made.

Amendment.

(2) An agreement may be amended or terminated by mutual consent of the parties thereto with the approval of the Governor in Council.

Coming into  
force of  
agreement.

**10.** An agreement shall not come into operation until the Governor in Council has approved the scheme for the administration of assistance proposed to be adopted by the province, and no change in the scheme shall be made by the province without the approval of the Governor in Council.

Regulations.

**11.** (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations for carrying the purposes and provisions of this Act into effect, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, may make regulations providing for

- (a) the time, manner and form of making an application, the information and evidence to be submitted in connection therewith, and the procedure to be followed by the provincial authority in the consideration of applications;
- (b) the investigation into applications and into the eligibility of a recipient to receive assistance, the reports to be made and the information to be supplied by or in respect of recipients;
- (c) the conditions under which information may be obtained from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as provided in section six;
- (d) the definition of residence in Canada for the purposes of this Act and the extent of intervals of absence from Canada that shall be deemed not to have interrupted the continuity of residence;
- (e) the definition of income for the purposes of this Act, and the manner in which income is to be determined, including the income of a recipient and his spouse, and the determination of the amount thereof that each shall be deemed to receive, whether they live together or separate and apart;
- (f) determining the amount that for the purposes of this Act shall be deemed income of a recipient from any interest in real or personal property of the recipient or his spouse owned or deemed to be owned at the date of making application or acquired subsequent thereto;
- (g) the time at which, after application therefor, the payment of assistance shall commence;
- (h) the payment of assistance to persons as trustees for the benefit of recipients who are incapacitated through infirmity, illness, or any other cause;
- (i) the circumstances justifying or requiring the suspension of the payment of assistance and the resumption of payment; and
- (j) the recovery of the amount of assistance payments to which a recipient was not entitled under this Act, the regulations and the agreement.

(2) No regulation by reference to which an agreement with a province has been made shall be altered, except with the consent of the province or in accordance with the regulations to which it has agreed.

(3) There shall be an Advisory Board consisting of two representatives of the Government of Canada, appointed by the Governor in Council, and two representatives of each of the provinces with which agreements have been made, appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of such provinces, to recommend such alterations to the regulations as may from time to time appear to be necessary or advisable.

**12.** The Minister shall, as soon as possible after the termination of each fiscal year, submit a report to Parliament respecting the operation for that year of the agreements made under this Act and of the payments made to the provinces under each of the agreements.

**13.** This Act shall come into force on the first day of January, nineteen hundred and fifty-two.

Report.  
Coming into force.

## THE OLD AGE ASSISTANCE REGULATIONS

**Regulations made and established by Order in Council P.C. 6596  
dated December 6, 1951, under the authority of The Old Age Assistance Act, Chapter 55, Statutes of Canada, 1951, (First Session).**

### *Short Title*

1. These Regulations may be cited as The Old Age Assistance Regulations.

### *Interpretation*

2. In these Regulations,

(a) "Act" means The Old Age Assistance Act;

(b) "Director" means the Director of Old Age Assistance in the Department of National Health and Welfare; and

(c) "personal property" includes the immediate realizable value of the amount remaining to be paid to a recipient or his spouse under a mortgage or agreement for sale, the proceeds of insurance received by a recipient or spouse and the cash surrender value of life insurance available to a recipient or his spouse.

### *Provision as to Notices*

3. (1) Any notice or other document required or authorized to be sent or delivered for the purpose of these Regulations shall be in writing.

(2) Any notice or other document required or authorized to be sent or delivered to any person by the provincial authority for the purpose of these Regulations shall be deemed to be duly sent or delivered at the time at which the notice or document is posted to that person at his ordinary address.

### *Application*

4. (1) Application for assistance may be made by any person who alleges that he has attained the age of sixty-four years and eight months; provided that during the first twelve months that an agreement under section 3 of the Act is in force in a province, application may be made by any person who alleges that he has attained the age of sixty-four years and six months.

(2) Application shall be deemed to have been made only when an application form completed by an applicant (or, where the provincial authority is satisfied that the applicant is unable to complete the application form on account of physical infirmity or mental illness or for any other valid reason, an application form completed by some responsible person on behalf of the applicant) is actually received in the office of the provincial authority for the province in which the applicant is resident.

(3) Without restricting the right of the provincial authority to prescribe the form or contents of an application, an application shall state:

(a) the full name of the applicant including, in the case of a married woman, her full maiden name, and, in the case of an applicant who has changed his name, the name before such change was made;

- (b) the present address of the applicant, place and date of birth (including the place and date of birth of the spouse) and place or places of residence during the twenty years preceding the date of application;
- (c) the sex and particulars of the marital status of the applicant including, in the case of a married person, whether such person is living with his or her spouse and whether such spouse is sighted or blind;
- (d) the occupation, income and means of subsistence of the applicant and spouse;
- (e) particulars of any real or personal property apart from household furnishings and personal effects owned by the applicant or spouse at the date of application;
- (f) particulars of any real or personal property which the applicant or spouse transferred to any person or persons within the five years preceding the date of application.

(4) The application shall be supported by a statutory declaration of the applicant or person making application on behalf of the applicant to the effect that all the statements in the application are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and that no information required to be given has been concealed or omitted.

(5) Every provincial authority shall supply, without charge, a form of application to any person who desires to make an application and, if so requested, shall give all information and assistance possible in completing the application.

#### *Investigation of Claims*

5. (1) The provincial authority shall, in respect of each application, cause an investigation to be made into the facts and circumstances as therein set out and such other matters as may be necessary to determine the eligibility of the applicant for assistance and, if the applicant is so eligible, the provincial authority shall determine the rate of assistance payable and shall thereupon approve the application accordingly.

(2) The investigation required by subsection (1) shall be made not sooner than four months before the date of the proposed commencement of assistance; provided that during the first twelve months that an agreement under section 3 of the Act is in force in a province, the said period of four months may be extended to six months where in the opinion of the provincial authority thereof it is necessary to do so.

(3) Where an application has been so approved and assistance is being paid, the provincial authority shall, each year, cause an investigation to be made into the circumstances of the recipient to determine whether such recipient continues to be eligible for assistance and the amount thereof.

(4) Before altering the rate of assistance being paid to a recipient or before suspending assistance or reinstating assistance which has been suspended, the provincial authority shall cause an investigation to be made into the circumstances of the recipient; provided that in any individual case the provincial authority may, in lieu of such investigation, make such enquiry and obtain such information as it deems adequate.

(5) The report of any investigation or enquiry made shall be filed with the application and shall be available at any time for inspection by officials of the Government of Canada.

(6) An investigation required by this section shall be made by an investigator in the employ of the provincial authority or the provincial government or by a duly authorized representative of any other agency

if such representative is recommended by the provincial authority and approved by the Minister, and such investigator or representative, as the case may be, shall, in the course of such investigation, personally interview the recipient.

(7) All applications and accompanying documents received by any person other than the provincial authority shall be forwarded to the provincial authority and no person other than the provincial authority shall approve or reject any application or alter the rate of assistance.

#### *Age*

6. (1) For the purpose of enabling the provincial authority to consider the eligibility of an applicant as regards age, the applicant shall forward to the provincial authority a certificate of birth or of baptism, or, if neither certificate is obtainable, shall forward any other documentary evidence that he may have or be able to obtain from which his age may be determined.

(2) If the provincial authority is satisfied that the applicant is unable to furnish satisfactory evidence as to his age as provided in subsection (1), the provincial authority shall endeavour to obtain information from other sources and, in the case of an applicant who alleges he was born in Canada, the provincial authority shall, if records for the period in question are available in the province where he alleges he was born, first request the registrar of vital statistics in that province to make a search for information as to his age.

(3) If the provincial authority is unable to obtain information as provided in subsections (1) and (2), it may request the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to make a search of the census records for information as to the age of the applicant, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) any request for census information as to age shall be made in the form of an application prescribed by the Dominion Statistician which shall bear or be accompanied by the signed consent of the person concerning whom the information is sought, and shall provide such specific information as may be required for the purpose of making a search in the census records; and
- (b) any information supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shall be confidential and shall not be used for any other purpose than that of establishing the age of the applicant as required under the Act, The Blind Persons Act, or The Old Age Security Act, as the case may be.
- (4) (a) If, after thorough search and inquiry, the provincial authority is unable to obtain from the applicant, or elsewhere, satisfactory and sufficient documentary evidence as to his age it may, with the consent of the Director, submit the question of the age of the applicant, together with any documentary or other evidence that it may have obtained relevant thereto, to a tribunal, as herein provided, for a decision as to whether or not the applicant has attained the age of sixty-five years.
- (b) Such tribunal shall consist of a member to be designated by the provincial authority, a member to be designated by the Director and a third member, who shall be the chairman, to be chosen by such other two members.
- (c) The tribunal, in deciding upon whether the applicant has attained the age of sixty-five years, shall be entitled to take into account any facts, circumstances or evidence, documentary or other, including physical characteristics of the applicant, relevant to the determination of the issue.

(d) The decision of the tribunal shall be the decision of the majority thereof and, subject to rebutting evidence being obtained at any time, shall be final and conclusive of whether or not the applicant has attained the age of sixty-five years.

(5) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of subsection (4), the provincial authority shall not be bound to accept any evidence respecting the age of a recipient as final and conclusive and any evidence submitted to or obtained by the provincial authority as proof of age may be rebutted at any time.

#### *Marital Status*

7. For the purpose of enabling the provincial authority to consider the eligibility of an applicant as regards marital status, the provincial authority may accept a certificate of marriage or, if no such certificate is procurable, such other evidence corroborative of the statement of the applicant or his spouse as it deems satisfactory.

#### *Residence*

8. (1) For the purpose of enabling the provincial authority to consider the eligibility of an applicant as regards residence in Canada or in a province, the provincial authority may take into account, together with any other evidence that it may be able to obtain, a statutory declaration made by any reliable and disinterested person, other than the applicant, covering such facts as to which such person has personal knowledge.

(2) For the purposes of the Act and these Regulations, residence and presence in Newfoundland prior to the date of union of Newfoundland with Canada, shall respectively be deemed to be residence and presence in Canada.

9. (1) Intervals of absence of an applicant from Canada during the twenty years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of assistance which are of a temporary nature and which, when totalled and averaged, do not exceed sixty days per year, shall be deemed not to have interrupted the residence in Canada of such applicant during such period and the provisions of this subsection shall not apply in respect of cases coming within the provisions of subsections (2), (3) and (4).

(2) If an applicant, while a resident of Canada, has temporarily absented himself therefrom for the purpose of engaging in

- (a) employment on a ship or on a fishing boat;
- (b) employment on trains running out of Canada operated by any railway company having its head office in Canada;
- (c) seasonal employment, such as lumbering or harvesting, for not more than six months in any one year;
- (d) employment by or as a representative of a Canadian firm or corporation, or while he was himself a member of such a firm or corporation;
- (e) employment by the United Nations or one of its specialized agencies; or

(f) missionary work with any religious group or organization and, at the termination of such employment, he returned to Canada, he shall be deemed to have continued to reside in Canada during such absence if, during the period thereof, he had in Canada a permanent place of abode to which, whenever he was absent therefrom, he had the intention of returning, or he maintained in Canada, a self-contained domestic establishment.

(3) If an applicant, while a resident of Canada, has temporarily absented himself therefrom

- (a) while he was employed and paid by the Government of Canada, or by the government of any province; or
- (b) during the first or second world war while he was a member of the forces of any country allied with Canada or was engaged in work in connection with the prosecution of any such war for Canada or its allies; or
- (c) pursuant to and in connection with the requirements of his duties as a member of the armed forces of Canada

and, at the termination of his duties abroad, he returned to Canada, he shall be presumed to have continued to reside in Canada during such absence.

(4) An applicant who is a married woman or a widow and who was absent from Canada with her husband while he was absent from Canada in any of the circumstances provided for by subsection (2) or (3), shall, during the period of such absence with him, be deemed to have continued to reside in Canada during such absence.

#### *Income*

10. (1) For the purpose of the Act and the Regulations, income shall include the net amount or value of all income, gratuities and contributions received, whether in cash or in kind, and without restricting the generality of the foregoing

- (a) any assistance paid under the Act;
- (b) any allowance paid to a spouse under The Blind Persons Act;
- (c) any pension paid to a spouse under The Old Age Security Act;
- (d) income from any interest in real or personal property as determined under section 11; and
- (e) the value of board and lodging, or board or lodging furnished free of charge, or for which a nominal charge is made, as determined under section 12.

(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), an agreement with a province under section 3 of the Act may, at the request of such province, provide that all or any of the following, namely:

- (a) mothers' allowances paid pursuant to provincial legislation;
- (b) family allowances paid pursuant to the Family Allowances Act, 1944;
- (c) cost of living allowances or supplemental allowances paid by any province to any person in receipt of assistance under the Act or an allowance under The Blind Persons Act or a pension under The Old Age Security Act;
- (d) pay allotted or assigned by a member of the naval, military or air forces of Canada, serving on active service, where no dependent's allowance has been awarded in respect of the recipient or the spouse of such recipient;
- (e) direct relief in an amount considered reasonable by the provincial authority if paid out of moneys provided only by the municipality or the province in which the recipient resides, or by both, or by a charitable organization incorporated or registered under a law of a province or of the Parliament of Canada;
- (f) casual gifts of small value;
- (g) contributions other than for ordinary maintenance to recipients or to the spouses of recipients who require special care; and

(h) any amount considered reasonable by the provincial authority received by a spouse who is blind within the meaning of The Blind Persons Act for the purpose of obtaining the services of a guide

shall not be included in the calculation of income under subsection (1), and income in such province shall be calculated accordingly.

11. For the purpose of determining the amount that shall be deemed income from any interest in real or personal property of a recipient, or, in the case of a married recipient living with his spouse, of the recipient and his spouse, whether owned or deemed to be owned by the recipient or his spouse at the date of making application, or acquired subsequent thereto, the provincial authority shall

(a) as regards real property—

- (i) that is used as a residence by the recipient and from which no revenue is derived, consider as income an amount equal to five per cent of the market value of such property after deducting therefrom the amount of any encumbrances thereon, or five per cent of the assessed value, or an amount that in the opinion of the provincial authority is reasonably equivalent to the rental value thereof; and in determining such rental value the provincial authority may in its discretion deduct the cost of the maintenance of such property which shall not include the cost of heating, lighting, communications, structural alterations other than those attributable to wear and tear, or any payment of principal on a mortgage or agreement for sale thereon;
- (ii) that is used as a residence by the recipient and from which the recipient derives a revenue from any use or occupation thereof, consider as income the net revenue so derived (provided that where such revenue is derived from the rental of rooms, not less than fifty per cent thereof shall be deemed to be net revenue) together with an amount equal to five per cent of the market value of such property after deducting therefrom the amount of any encumbrances thereon, or five per cent of the assessed value, or an amount that in the opinion of the provincial authority is reasonably equivalent to the rental value of the portion thereof occupied by the recipient; and in determining such rental value the provincial authority may in its discretion deduct the cost of the maintenance of such property which shall not include the cost of heating, lighting, communications, structural alterations other than those attributable to wear and tear, or any payment of principal on a mortgage or agreement for sale thereon;
- (iii) that is revenue bearing and is not used as a residence by the recipient, consider as income the net revenue therefrom after deducting reasonable and necessary expenses of maintenance other than any payment of principal on any mortgage or agreement for sale thereon;
- (iv) that is not revenue bearing or from which a nominal revenue is derived and is not used as a residence by the recipient, consider as income the net revenue that, in the opinion of the provincial authority, such property should or might reasonably be expected to yield;

- (b) as regards personal property, deduct from the amount or value thereof owned at the date of application the sum of one thousand dollars in the case of an unmarried recipient and the sum of two thousand dollars in the case of a married recipient living with his spouse (or such amount less than one thousand dollars or two thousand dollars, respectively, as may be provided by a province in its agreement under section 3 of the Act) and consider as income during the period that the recipient is or may be entitled to receive assistance an amount calculated as follows:
- (i) in the case of an unmarried recipient, divide the remaining balance on a monthly basis over the period between the date of the proposed commencement of assistance and the date on which the recipient attains the age of seventy years;
  - (ii) in the case of a married recipient living with his spouse, divide the remaining balance on a monthly basis over the period between the proposed commencement of assistance and the date on which the younger of the two spouses attains the age of seventy years, or over a period of sixty months, whichever is the lesser period;
  - (iii) where additional personal property is acquired after the date of application, there shall be deemed to be additional income therefrom from the date of such acquisition an amount to be arrived at by dividing the value thereof on a monthly basis over the period between the date of acquisition and, in the case of an unmarried recipient, the date on which he attains the age of seventy years, and in the case of a married recipient living with his spouse, the date on which the younger of the two spouses attains the age of seventy years, or over a period of sixty months, whichever is the lesser period;
  - (iv) in the case of a married recipient living with his spouse where his spouse is or becomes a recipient at any time before he ceases to be eligible for assistance as provided in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 3 of the Act, income determined under the foregoing subparagraphs shall not be redetermined by reason only of such ineligibility, but where his spouse becomes a recipient after he has so ceased to be eligible, income under this subsection shall be redetermined as provided in the foregoing subparagraphs.

12. Where board and lodging or board or lodging is provided free to a recipient or for a nominal amount, the provincial authority shall consider as income of the recipient, and in the case of a recipient who is married and living with his spouse, of the recipient and his spouse, an amount that, in its opinion, is a fair and reasonable charge therefor, but which shall, in no case, be less than the amounts respectively hereinafter set forth—

	<i>Unmarried recipient</i>	<i>Married recipient</i>
Lodging .....	\$10.00 monthly	\$15.00 monthly
Board .....	20.00 monthly	30.00 monthly
Board and Lodging .....	30.00 monthly	45.00 monthly

#### *Transfer of Property*

13. (1) Where a recipient or his spouse has, within the five years preceding the date of application or subsequent to such date, made an assignment or transfer of real or personal property, such recipient shall furnish to the provincial authority full particulars concerning such assignment or transfer.

(2) The provincial authority, from the particulars so furnished, shall determine whether or not the consideration for such assignment or transfer was inadequate or whether such assignment or transfer was made by such recipient or his spouse for the purpose of qualifying the recipient for assistance or for a larger amount of assistance than he otherwise would be entitled to receive or to prevent recovery of any claim under provincial law.

(3) Where, from the particulars so furnished or in the absence of satisfactory particulars being furnished, the provincial authority is of the opinion that the consideration for an assignment or transfer of property was inadequate or that such assignment or transfer was made by a recipient or his spouse for the purpose of qualifying the recipient for assistance or for a larger amount of assistance than he otherwise would be entitled to receive or to prevent recovery of any claim under provincial law, the provincial authority shall consider as income from such property an amount calculated as provided in section 11 in the case of property owned by a recipient or his spouse at the date of making application.

14. Where the recipient or his spouse re-converts into real property, personal property derived from the sale of real property held at the time assistance was granted, the provincial authority may, in lieu of calculating as income of such recipient the value of the personal property so re-converted as provided in paragraph (b) of section 11, consider as income an amount respecting the newly acquired real property calculated as provided in paragraph (a) thereof.

#### *When Assistance Shall Commence*

15 (1) Assistance shall be payable in arrears from the first day of the month following the month in which the recipient attains the age of sixty-five years or from the first day of the month following the month in which his application is approved, whichever is the later.

(2) Where an application is approved after the last day of the month in which it was received by the provincial authority, and delay in such approval resulted from circumstances wholly beyond the control of the recipient, the provincial authority may, in its discretion, declare that such approval shall be effective as of an earlier date which shall be a date after the recipient attains the age of sixty-five years and which shall in no case be earlier than the date of the receipt of the application by the provincial authority or a date not more than three months prior to that on which approval is given, whichever is the later; provided, however,

(a) that in any case where delay in such approval is attributable to the fact that the recipient is resident in a part of Canada that is accessible only at a certain time or times of the year, the period of three months herein mentioned may be extended to not more than six months;

(b) that during the first twelve months that an agreement under section 3 of the Act is in force with a province, where, in the opinion of the provincial authority thereof, it is necessary to do so, the said period of three months may be extended to not more than six months insofar as such province is concerned.

(3) Where assistance is suspended at the request of a recipient the same shall not be reinstated prior to the date on which the provincial authority is requested in writing by such recipient to do so.

(4) Except in the case of the Northwest Territories, no recipient shall be paid assistance for any period exceeding one month during which such recipient receives direct relief out of moneys paid in whole or in part by the Government of Canada.

#### *Manner Payable*

16. Assistance shall be paid by cheque or other instrument in a form approved by the province.

#### *Incapacity of Recipient*

17. (1) Where a recipient is incapacitated through infirmity, illness or any other cause, and is unable to look after his own affairs, or, if the provincial authority considers that the recipient is using or is likely to use his assistance otherwise than for his own benefit, the provincial authority may pay the assistance to a trustee appointed by such provincial authority to be expended for the benefit of the recipient.

(2) Any such trustee may be removed by the provincial authority or may resign and the provincial authority may appoint another trustee in his place.

(3) Any trustee so appointed shall, when required by the provincial authority, make returns showing the amount of the assistance received, the amount that has been expended for the benefit of the recipient and the balance remaining in the hands of the trustee.

(4) Subject to sub-section (1), where the trustee so appointed is an officer or employee of an institution in which a recipient is being maintained, the provincial authority may authorize the trustee to pay to such institution such proportion of the assistance as is considered by the provincial authority to be a reasonable sum for the maintenance of the recipient, but shall require the trustee to make available to the recipient an amount which it considers reasonable for his personal use.

#### *Suspension of Assistance*

18. (1) The payment of assistance shall be suspended

(a) during the absence of a recipient from Canada, but the provincial authority may, if satisfied that the circumstances so justify, pay the assistance for any period of absence not exceeding a total of ninety-two days in the twelve month period preceding the return of the recipient to Canada;

(b) while serving any sentence to imprisonment that exceeds thirty days;

(c) during the period that a recipient neglects or refuses to comply with the provisions of the Act and these Regulations or to furnish any information that he is required to furnish pursuant thereto.

(2) A provincial authority shall recover from a recipient any sum improperly paid by way of assistance whether such sum was paid as the result of non-disclosure of facts, misrepresentations or any other cause, and, if the provincial authority is unable to recover the whole of such sum, the provincial authority shall suspend the payment of the assistance of such recipient until the aggregate amount of the suspended payments equals the sum improperly paid less any amount that has been recovered prior to such suspension; provided that where the recipient has not been guilty of fraud or misrepresentation the provincial authority, in its discretion, may reduce

the assistance by an amount of not less than five dollars each month, so that recovery of such overpayment will be made in full prior to the date on which the recipient attains the age of seventy years.

#### *Increase or Reduction of Assistance*

19. The provincial authority shall require a recipient to report forthwith any increase or reduction in his income or real property or the income or real property of his spouse and to furnish particulars of any personal property acquired by him or his spouse after the date of his application.

20. Any recipient who desires to apply for an increase in the amount of assistance to which he may be entitled under the Act, shall notify the provincial authority and shall furnish all necessary information.

#### *Accounting*

21. Any sums due by Canada to a province in settlement of Canada's share of the net amount expended by the province in payment of assistance shall be ascertained as of the last day of each month, shall be audited by the provincial auditor and shall be paid on the certificate of the provincial auditor as soon thereafter as possible, subject to final audit by officials of the Government of Canada. The accounts submitted by the provincial authority for the purpose of reimbursement shall contain such information as the Minister shall require.

22. In calculating the amount due by Canada to a province no account shall be taken of any sums that, under the provisions of the Act, such province is liable to reimburse another province or to be reimbursed by another province in respect of assistance granted therein or in such other province, nor shall any account be taken of the cost of administering or paying assistance.

23. In calculating the amount in respect of which any province is entitled to be reimbursed by another province under the provisions of the Act, regard shall be had only to the net amount of the assistance paid by the province to be reimbursed after deducting therefrom the amount payable by Canada on account of such assistance.

24. Balances due by one province to another province under the provisions of the Act shall be settled monthly as of the same date as the sums due by Canada are payable.

25. The amount recovered by a provincial authority from a recipient or from the estate of a deceased recipient in respect of any assistance shall be distributed between the province responsible for payment of the provincial share of the assistance, and Canada in accordance with the amount of any such assistance respectively paid by each.

## APPENDIX III

### THE BLIND PERSONS ACT

---

#### CHAP. 38.

An Act to provide for Allowances for Blind Persons.

[Assented to 30th June, 1951.]

**H**IS Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

**Short title.**

**1.** This Act may be cited as *The Blind Persons Act*.

**Definitions.**

**2.** In this Act,

(a) "agreement" means an agreement made under section three;

(b) "allowance" means a blind persons allowance provided under provincial law to the persons and under the conditions specified in this Act and the regulations;

(c) "application" means an application for an allowance;

(d) "dependent child" means a son or step-son who has not attained the age of sixteen years and a daughter or step-daughter who has not attained the age of seventeen years, and includes a son, step-son, daughter or step-daughter who has not attained the age of twenty-one years and is prevented from earning a livelihood by reason of physical or mental incapacity;

(e) "Minister" means the Minister of National Health and Welfare;

(f) "provincial authority" means the officer or body charged with the administration of the provincial law;

(g) "provincial law" means a law of a province that provides for the payment of blind persons allowances to the persons and under the conditions specified in this Act and the regulations, and authorizes the province to enter into an agreement with the Government of Canada in accordance with this Act;

(h) "province" includes the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory;

(i) "recipient" means a person to whom an allowance has been granted and includes an applicant for an allowance; and

(j) "unmarried person" includes a widow, a widower, a divorced person and a married person who, in the opinion of the provincial authority, is living separate and apart from his spouse.

"agreement."

"allowance."

"application."

"dependent child."

"Minister."

"provincial authority."

"provincial law."

"province."

"recipient."

"unmarried person."

**3.** (1) The Minister, with the approval of the Governor in Council, may, on behalf of the Government of Canada, make an agreement with a province to provide for the payment to the province, in accordance with this Act and the regulations, of amounts in respect of allowances paid by the province pursuant to provincial law, not exceeding, in respect of any recipient, seventy-five per cent. of forty dollars monthly or of the amount of the allowance paid by the province monthly to the recipient, whichever is the lesser.

(2) Payments to a province pursuant to this section shall be made only in respect of a recipient who

Agreements with provinces.

Qualifications.

(a) at the date of the proposed commencement of allowance payments to him

(i) is blind, and

(ii) has attained the age of twenty-one years, and

(iii) has resided in Canada for the ten years immediately preceding that date, or if he has not so resided, has been present in Canada prior to those ten years for an aggregate period equal to twice the aggregate period of absences from Canada during those ten years; and

(b) is not in receipt of assistance under *The Old Age Assistance Act* or an allowance under *The War Veterans' Allowance Act, 1946*, or a pension under *The Old Age Security Act* or a pension in respect of blindness under the *Pensions Act*; and

(c) is

(i) an unmarried person, without a dependent child or children and his income, inclusive of allowance, is not more than eight hundred and forty dollars a year, or

(ii) an unmarried person with a dependent child or children, and his income, inclusive of allowance, is not more than one thousand and forty dollars a year, or

(iii) married and living with his spouse and the total income, inclusive of allowance, of the recipient and his spouse is not more than thirteen hundred and twenty dollars a year, or

(iv) married and living with his spouse who is blind and the total income, inclusive of allowance, of the recipient and his spouse is not more than fourteen hundred and forty dollars a year.

**4.** An agreement with a province shall contain a covenant by the Government of Canada to pay to the province each month the amount that the Government of Canada is at that time authorized to pay to the province under this Act.

Amount of payments by Government of Canada.

**5.** (1) The allowance in respect of which the Government of Canada is authorized by this Act to make payments shall be payable monthly in arrears.

Allowance payable monthly in arrears.

(2) Where a province pays an allowance in respect of a recipient for the whole of the month in which the recipient dies, the Government of Canada shall make payments in respect thereof in accordance with section three.

Where recipient dies.

Census  
records.

**6.** Subject to the conditions specified in the regulations, a provincial authority is entitled, for the purpose of ascertaining the age of a recipient, to obtain from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics any information respecting the age of a recipient that is contained in the returns of any census taken more than thirty years before the date of the application for such information.

Provisions of  
agreement.

**7.** In every agreement the province shall, subject to section three,

- (a) specify the maximum allowance to be paid by it to a recipient;
- (b) provide for the reduction of such maximum allowance by the amount of any income received by a recipient in excess of an amount to be specified in such agreement; and
- (c) covenant and agree
  - (i) that the provincial authority will consider applications from persons resident in the province in the manner prescribed by regulation, and where satisfied that a recipient is properly and lawfully entitled to the allowance, under the conditions specified in this Act, the regulations and the agreement, grant the allowance to such recipient in the amount specified in the agreement;
  - (ii) that where a recipient, during the last ten hundred and ninety-five days that he was present in Canada prior to reaching the age of twenty-one years, or prior to making application for the allowance, whichever is the later, was present in the province for a greater number of days than in any other province, the province will reimburse any other province that is paying the allowance to the extent of twenty-five per cent. of the amount of the allowance;
  - (iii) that the province will, where a recipient who has been granted an allowance transfers his residence to such province from another province, pay the allowance;
  - (iv) that where a recipient, to whom the province has granted an allowance, transfers his residence to another province with which no agreement is in force, the province will continue to pay the allowance to such recipient;
  - (v) that where a recipient, who has been granted an allowance, transfers his residence to some place out of Canada, the province will discontinue payment of the allowance and not resume payment thereof until such recipient has again become resident in Canada;
  - (vi) to make statutory provision for penalties to ensure the proper carrying out of the provincial law and to provide that no allowance shall be subject to alienation or transfer by a recipient or to attachment or seizure in satisfaction of any claim against him, and that the receipt of the allowance shall not by itself constitute a disqualification from voting at any provincial or municipal election;

- (vii) that the province will furnish without charge to the provincial authority of any province, a certificate of the date of the birth of any recipient born within the province;
- (viii) to maintain proper and adequate records and accounts respecting the payment of allowances, and to permit of an examination, inspection and audit by the Government of Canada of all such payments and of the records and accounts with respect thereto;
- (ix) that where a recipient or his spouse has, within the five years preceding the date of application, made an assignment or transfer of property the consideration for which is, in the opinion of the provincial authority, inadequate, or where it appears to the provincial authority that any assignment or transfer of property made by a recipient or his spouse was made for the purpose of qualifying the recipient for an allowance, or for a larger allowance than he otherwise would be entitled to receive, or to prevent recovery of any claim under the provincial law, the province will deem the property so assigned or transferred to be property of the recipient or his spouse owned at the date of the application as though the assignment or transfer had not been made;
- (x) that where recovery of the amount of any allowance is made from a recipient or his estate, the province will furnish to the Government of Canada monthly a report thereof and pay to the Government of Canada an amount that bears the same ratio to the amount so recovered as the total amounts paid by the Government of Canada in respect of allowance payments made to such recipient bears to the total of such allowance payments.

**8.** All sums of money payable to a province in pursuance of an agreement shall be paid by the Minister of Finance on the certificate of the Minister out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and all such payments shall be made subject to the conditions specified in this Act and the regulations and subject to the observance of the covenants, agreements and undertakings contained in the agreement.

Payments  
out of  
C.R.F.

**9.** (1) Subject to subsection two, every agreement shall continue in force so long as the provincial law remains in operation or until the expiration of ten years from the day upon which notice of an intention to terminate the agreement is given by the Minister, with the approval of the Governor in Council, to the province with which the agreement was made.

Duration of  
agreements.

(2) An agreement may be amended or terminated by mutual consent of the parties thereto with the approval of the Governor in Council.

**10.** An agreement shall not come into operation until the Governor in Council has approved the scheme for the adminis-

Coming into  
force of  
agreement.

tration of allowances proposed to be adopted by the province, and no change in the scheme shall be made by the province without the approval of the Governor in Council.

**Regulations.** **11.** (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations for carrying the purposes and provisions of this Act into effect, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, may make regulations providing for

- (a) the definition of "blind" for the purposes of this Act;
- (b) the time, manner and form of making an application, the information and evidence to be submitted in connection therewith, and the procedure to be followed by the provincial authority in the consideration of applications;
- (c) the investigation into applications and into the eligibility of a recipient to receive an allowance, the reports to be made and the information to be supplied by or in respect of recipients;
- (d) the conditions under which information may be obtained from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as provided in section six;
- (e) the definition of residence in Canada for the purposes of this Act and the extent of intervals of absence from Canada that shall be deemed not to have interrupted the continuity of residence;
- (f) the definition of income for the purposes of this Act, and the manner in which income is to be determined, including the income of a recipient and his spouse, and the determination of the amount thereof that each shall be deemed to receive, whether they live together or separate and apart;
- (g) determining the amount that for the purposes of this Act shall be deemed income of a recipient from any interest in real or personal property of the recipient or his spouse owned or deemed to be owned at the date of making application or acquired subsequent thereto;
- (h) the time at which, after application therefor, the payment of the allowance shall commence;
- (i) the payment of allowances to persons as trustees for the benefit of recipients who are incapacitated through infirmity, illness, or any other cause;
- (j) the circumstances justifying or requiring the suspension of the payment of allowances and the resumption of payment; and
- (k) the recovery of the amount of allowance payments to which a recipient was not entitled under this Act, the regulations and the agreement.

**Alteration of regulations.** (2) No regulation by reference to which an agreement with a province has been made shall be altered, except with the consent of the province or in accordance with the regulations to which it has agreed.

**Advisory Board.** (3) There shall be an Advisory Board consisting of two representatives of the Government of Canada, appointed by the

Governor in Council, and two representatives of each of the provinces with which agreements have been made, appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of such provinces, to recommend such alterations to the regulations as may from time to time appear to be necessary or advisable.

**12.** The Minister shall, as soon as possible after the termination of each fiscal year, submit a report to Parliament respecting the operation for that year of the agreements made under this Act and of the payments made to the provinces under each of the agreements. Report.

**13.** (1) Section eight A of the *Old Age Pensions Act*, chapter Repeal. one hundred and fifty-six of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, is repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal of section eight A of the Saving. *Old Age Pensions Act*, where a province that has not entered into an agreement under this Act continues to pay pensions to the persons and under the conditions specified in section eight A of the *Old Age Pensions Act* in accordance with the terms of an agreement made by that province under the *Old Age Pensions Act* and in force on the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-one, the Government of Canada will, in accordance with the terms of such agreement and the *Old Age Pensions Act*, continue to make payments to such province in respect of the pensions so paid as though the said section eight A had not been repealed.

**14.** This Act shall come into force on the first day of January, Coming into force. nineteen hundred and fifty-two.

## THE BLIND PERSONS REGULATIONS

Regulations made and established by Order in Council P.C. 6595 dated December 6, 1951, under the authority of The Blind Persons Act, Chapter 38, Statutes of Canada, 1951, (First Session).

### *Short Title*

1. These Regulations may be cited as The Blind Persons Regulations.

### *Interpretation*

2. (1) In these Regulations
  - (a) "Act" means The Blind Persons Act;
  - (b) "Director" means the Director of Blind Persons Allowances in The Department of National Health and Welfare; and
  - (c) "personal property" includes the immediate realizable value of the amount remaining to be paid to a recipient or his spouse under a mortgage or agreement for sale, the proceeds of insurance received by a recipient or spouse and the cash surrender value of life insurance available to a recipient or his spouse.
- (2) For the purpose of the Act and these Regulations, a person shall be deemed to be "blind" only when the visual acuity of such person, after correction through the use of proper refractive lens, is not more than 6/60 Snellen or the field of vision in each eye of such person is reduced to less than ten degrees.

### *Provisions as to Notices*

3. (1) Any notice or other document required or authorized to be sent or delivered for the purpose of these Regulations shall be in writing.

(2) Any notice or other document required or authorized to be sent or delivered to any person by the provincial authority for the purpose of these Regulations shall be deemed to be duly sent or delivered at the time at which the notice or document is posted to that person at his ordinary address.

### *Application*

4. (1) Application for an allowance may be made by any person who alleges that he has attained the age of twenty years and six months and that he is a blind person.

(2) Application shall be deemed to have been made only when an application form completed by, or on behalf of, an applicant is actually received in the office of the provincial authority for the province in which the applicant is resident.

(3) Without restricting the right of the provincial authority to prescribe the form or contents of an application, an application shall state:

- (a) the full name of the applicant including, in the case of a married woman, her full maiden name, and, in the case of an applicant who has changed his name, the name before such change was made;
- (b) the present address of the applicant, place and date of birth (including the place and date of birth of the spouse) and place or places of residence during the ten years preceding the date of application;
- (c) the sex and particulars of the marital status of the applicant including, in the case of an unmarried person with a dependent child or children, the names and ages of such children, and in the case of a married person, whether such person is living with his or her spouse and whether such spouse is sighted or blind;
- (d) the occupation, income and means of subsistence of the applicant and spouse;
- (e) the time at which the applicant first considered himself to be a blind person, and the cause of his impaired vision, if known;
- (f) particulars of any real or personal property apart from household furnishings and personal effects owned by the applicant or spouse at the date of application;
- (g) particulars of any real or personal property which the applicant or spouse transferred to any person or persons within the five years preceding the date of application.

(4) The application shall be supported by a statutory declaration of the applicant or person making application on behalf of the applicant to the effect that all the statements in the application are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and that no information required to be given has been concealed or omitted.

(5) Every provincial authority shall supply, without charge, a form of application to any person who desires to make an application and, if so requested, shall give all information and assistance possible in completing the application.

(6) Any person who immediately prior to the date that an allowance is payable in a province pursuant to an agreement made under section 3 of the Act is in receipt of a pension in respect of blindness pursuant to section 8A of the Old Age Pensions Act, Chapter 156, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927, shall be deemed to be a person who has fulfilled the requirements of the Act and these Regulations, and, notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding subsections of this section and of sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, the provincial authority may regard such person as a person who has made application for an allowance and who has fulfilled the requirements of the Act and Regulations, and, without further investigation or examination, may approve the application made by such person under the Old Age Pensions Act as an application made under the Act and these Regulations and determine the rate of allowance accordingly.

#### *Investigation of Claims and Medical Examinations*

5. (1) The provincial authority shall, in respect of each application, cause an investigation to be made into the facts and circumstances as therein set out, including a report respecting the physical activities that such applicant is able to perform without assistance, and such other matters as may be necessary to determine the eligibility of the applicant for an allowance.

(2) The investigation required by subsection (1) shall be made not sooner than four months before the date of the proposed commencement of the allowance.

(3) Providing such investigation discloses that the applicant, subject to proof of blindness, is eligible for an allowance, the provincial authority shall forward to the Minister the full name and address of the applicant, and shall certify that the applicant has fulfilled the conditions set out in subparagraphs (ii) and (iii) of paragraph (a) and paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) and section 3 of the Act. The provincial authority shall, at such time, furnish to the Minister a copy of the portion of the investigation report dealing with the physical activities that the applicant is able to perform without assistance.

6. (1) At the time the information as provided in section 5 is forwarded to the Minister, the provincial authority shall arrange with an oculist, who has been approved by the Minister, for the examination of the applicant and shall notify the applicant accordingly. The provincial authority shall forward to the oculist prior to the examination a copy of the portion of the investigation report dealing with the physical activities that the applicant is able to perform without assistance. The expenses of such examination, other than the cost of transportation and living expenses of the applicant incidental to such examination, may be paid out of moneys appropriated therefor by Parliament.

(2) The oculist shall conduct an examination as required by these Regulations and in accordance with any instructions given by the Minister to whom he shall forward a report thereof on forms provided for that purpose.

(3) The Minister shall, upon receipt of such report, issue a certificate and shall forward the same to the provincial authority; the certificate shall state *inter alia*

- (a) whether or not the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and Regulations;
- (b) whether or not the applicant is likely to continue to be blind within the meaning of the Act and Regulations; and
- (c) the times at or before which additional medical examinations, if any, should be made to ascertain that the applicant continues to be blind within the meaning of the Act and Regulations.

(4) Where an applicant is certified as blind as hereinbefore provided and is otherwise eligible for an allowance the provincial authority shall determine the rate thereof and approve the application accordingly; provided that if the provincial authority is not satisfied that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and Regulations, it may, notwithstanding the certificate, refuse to approve such application but shall, in such event, advise the Minister giving the reasons therefor.

7. Where the Minister has received satisfactory information that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and Regulations he may dispense with the examination required by section 6 and forthwith issue the certificate as provided by subsection (3) thereof.

8. No allowance shall be granted or paid until the Minister has certified that the applicant is blind within the meaning of the Act and Regulations.

9. The Minister may, at any time, require an applicant or recipient to report for medical examination and to furnish such information as he or the provincial authority may from time to time require.

10. (1) Where an application has been approved and an allowance is being paid, the provincial authority shall, each year, cause an investigation to be made into the circumstances of the recipient to determine whether such recipient continues to be eligible for an allowance and the amount thereof, and the report of such investigation shall include a description of the physical activities that such recipient is able to perform without assistance at that time. A copy of the report of such yearly investigation or a copy of the portion that deals with the physical activities that the recipient is able to perform without assistance at that time shall be forwarded to the Minister.

(2) Before altering the rate of allowance being paid to a recipient or before suspending an allowance or reinstating an allowance which has been suspended, the provincial authority shall cause an investigation to be made into the circumstances of the recipient; provided that in any individual case the provincial authority may, in lieu of such investigation, make such enquiry and obtain such information as it deems adequate.

(3) The report of any investigation or enquiry made shall be filed with the application and shall be available at any time for inspection by officials of the Government of Canada.

(4) An investigation required by this section shall be made by an investigator in the employ of the provincial authority or the provincial government or by a duly authorized representative of any other agency if such representative is recommended by the provincial authority and approved by the Minister, and such investigator or representative, as the case may be, shall, in the course of such investigation, personally interview the recipient.

(5) All applications and accompanying documents received by any person other than the provincial authority shall be forwarded to the provincial authority and no person other than the provincial authority shall approve or reject any application or alter the rate of allowance.

#### *Age*

11. (1) For the purpose of enabling the provincial authority to consider the eligibility of an applicant as regards age, the applicant shall forward to the provincial authority a certificate of birth or of baptism, or, if neither certificate is obtainable, shall forward any other documentary evidence that he may have or be able to obtain from which his age may be determined.

(2) If the provincial authority is satisfied that the applicant is unable to furnish satisfactory evidence as to his age as provided in subsection (1), the provincial authority shall endeavour to obtain information from other sources and, in the case of an applicant who alleges he was born in Canada, the provincial authority shall, if records for the period in question are available in the province where he alleges he was born, first request the registrar of vital statistics in that province to make a search for information as to his age.

(3) If the provincial authority is unable to obtain information as provided in subsections (1) and (2), it may request the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to make a search of the census records for information as to the age of the applicant, subject to the following conditions:

(a) any request for census information as to age shall be made in the form of an application prescribed by the Dominion Statistician which shall bear or be accompanied by the signed consent

of the person concerning whom the information is sought, and shall provide such specific information as may be required for the purpose of making a search in the census records; and

- (b) any information supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shall be confidential and shall not be used for any other purpose than that of establishing the age of the applicant as required under the Act, The Old Age Assistance Act, or The Old Age Security Act, as the case may be.
- (4) (a) If, after thorough search and inquiry, the provincial authority is unable to obtain from the applicant, or elsewhere, satisfactory and sufficient documentary evidence as to his age it may, with the consent of the Director, submit the question of the age of the applicant, together with any documentary or other evidence that it may have obtained relevant thereto, to a tribunal as herein provided, for a decision as to whether or not the applicant has attained the age of twenty-one years.
- (b) Such tribunal shall consist of a member to be designated by the provincial authority, a member to be designated by the Director and a third member, who shall be the chairman, to be chosen by such other two members.
- (c) The tribunal, in deciding upon whether the applicant has attained the age of twenty-one years, shall be entitled to take into account any facts, circumstances or evidence, documentary or other, including physical characteristics of the applicant, relevant to the determination of the issue.
- (d) The decision of the tribunal shall be the decision of the majority thereof and, subject to rebutting evidence being obtained at any time, shall be final and conclusive of whether or not the applicant has attained the age of twenty-one years.
- (5) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of subsection (4), the provincial authority shall not be bound to accept any evidence respecting the age of a recipient as final and conclusive and any evidence submitted to or obtained by the provincial authority as proof of age may be rebutted at any time.

12. For the purpose of determining the age of a child of a recipient, regard may be had to the documents or other evidence mentioned or referred to in section 11.

13. For the purpose of determining whether a child of a recipient is prevented from earning a livelihood by reason of physical or mental incapacity, the provincial authority shall be guided by a certificate of a duly qualified medical practitioner.

#### *Marital Status*

14. For the purpose of enabling the provincial authority to consider the eligibility of an applicant as regards marital status, the provincial authority may accept a certificate of marriage or, if no such certificate is procurable, such other evidence corroborative of the statement of the applicant or his spouse as it deems satisfactory.

#### *Residence*

15. (1) For the purpose of enabling the provincial authority to consider the eligibility of an applicant as regards residence in Canada or in a province, the provincial authority may take into account, together with

any other evidence that it may be able to obtain, a statutory declaration made by any reliable and disinterested person, other than the applicant, covering such facts as to which such person has personal knowledge.

(2) For the purposes of the Act and these Regulations, residence and presence in Newfoundland prior to the date of union of Newfoundland with Canada, shall respectively be deemed to be residence and presence in Canada.

16. (1) Intervals of absence of an applicant from Canada during the ten years immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of allowance which are of a temporary nature and which, when totalled and averaged, do not exceed sixty days per year, shall be deemed not to have interrupted the residence in Canada of such applicant during such period and the provisions of this subsection shall not apply in respect of cases coming within the provisions of subsections (2), (3) and (4).

(2) If an applicant, while a resident of Canada, has temporarily absented himself therefrom for the purpose of engaging in

- (a) employment on a ship or on a fishing boat;
- (b) employment on trains running out of Canada operated by any railway company having its head office in Canada;
- (c) seasonal employment, such as lumbering or harvesting, for not more than six months in any one year;
- (d) employment by or as a representative of a Canadian firm or corporation, or while he was himself a member of such a firm or corporation;
- (e) employment by the United Nations or one of its specialized agencies; or
- (f) missionary work with any religious group or organization

and, at the termination of such employment, he returned to Canada, he shall be deemed to have continued to reside in Canada during such absence if, during the period thereof, he had in Canada a permanent place of abode to which, whenever he was absent therefrom, he had the intention of returning, or he maintained in Canada, a self-contained domestic establishment.

(3) If an applicant, while a resident of Canada, has temporarily absented himself therefrom

- (a) while he was employed and paid by the Government of Canada, or by the government of any province; or
- (b) during the first or second world war while he was a member of the forces of any country allied with Canada or was engaged in work in connection with the prosecution of any such war for Canada or its allies; or
- (c) pursuant to and in connection with the requirements of his duties as a member of the armed forces of Canada

and, at the termination of his duties abroad, he returned to Canada, he shall be presumed to have continued to reside in Canada during such absence.

(4) An applicant who is a married woman or a widow and who was absent from Canada with her husband while he was absent from Canada in any of the circumstances provided for by subsection (2) or (3), shall, during the period of such absence with him, be deemed to have continued to reside in Canada during such absence.

*Income*

17 (1) For the purpose of the Act and the Regulations, income shall include the net amount or value of all income, gratuities and contributions received, whether in cash or in kind, and without restricting the generality of the foregoing

- (a) any allowance paid under the Act;
- (b) any assistance paid to a spouse under The Old Age Assistance Act;
- (c) any pension paid to a spouse under The Old Age Security Act;
- (d) income from any interest in real or personal property as determined under section 18; and
- (e) the value of board and lodging, or board or lodging furnished free of charge, or for which a nominal charge is made, as determined under section 19.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), an agreement with a province under section 3 of the Act may, at the request of such province, provide that all or any of the following, namely:

- (a) mothers' allowances paid pursuant to provincial legislation;
- (b) family allowances paid pursuant to The Family Allowances Act, 1944;
- (c) cost of living allowances or supplemental allowances paid by any province to any person in receipt of an allowance under the Act or assistance under The Old Age Assistance Act or a pension under The Old Age Security Act;
- (d) pay allotted or assigned by a member of the naval, military or air forces of Canada, serving on active service, where no dependents' allowance has been awarded in respect of the recipient or the spouse of such recipient;
- (e) direct relief in an amount considered reasonable by the provincial authority if paid out of moneys provided only by the municipality or the province in which the recipient resides, or by both, or by a charitable organization incorporated or registered under a law of a province or of the Parliament of Canada;
- (f) casual gifts of small value;
- (g) contributions other than for ordinary maintenance to recipients or to the spouses of recipients who require special care; and
- (h) any amount considered reasonable by the provincial authority received by a recipient or by the spouse of a recipient who is blind within the meaning of the Act for the purpose of obtaining the services of a guide

shall not be included in the calculation of income under subsection (1), and income in such province shall be calculated accordingly.

18. For the purpose of determining the amount that shall be deemed income from any interest in real or personal property of a recipient, or, in the case of a married recipient living with his spouse, of the recipient and his spouse, whether owned or deemed to be owned by the recipient or his spouse at the date of making application, or acquired subsequent thereto, the provincial authority shall

- (a) as regards real property—
  - (i) that is used as a residence by the recipient and from which no revenue is derived, consider as income an amount equal to five per cent of the market value of such property after deducting therefrom the amount of any encumbrances thereon, or five per cent of the assessed value, or an amount that in the

opinion of the provincial authority is reasonably equivalent to the rental value thereof; and in determining such rental value the provincial authority may in its discretion deduct the cost of the maintenance of such property which shall not include the cost of heating, lighting, communications, structural alterations other than those attributable to wear and tear, or any payment of principal on a mortgage or agreement for sale thereon;

- (ii) that is used as a residence by the recipient and from which the recipient derives a revenue from any use or occupation thereof, consider as income the net revenue so derived (provided that where such revenue is derived from the rental of rooms, not less than fifty per cent thereof shall be deemed to be net revenue) together with an amount equal to five per cent of the market value of such property after deducting therefrom the amount of any encumbrances thereon, or five per cent of the assessed value, or an amount that in the opinion of the provincial authority is reasonably equivalent to the rental value of the portion thereof occupied by the recipient; and in determining such rental value the provincial authority may in its discretion deduct the cost of the maintenance of such property which shall not include the cost of heating, lighting, communications, structural alterations other than those attributable to wear and tear, or any payment of principal on a mortgage or agreement for sale thereon;
- (iii) that is revenue bearing and is not used as a residence by the recipient, consider as income the net revenue therefrom after deducting reasonable and necessary expenses of maintenance other than any payment of principal on any mortgage or agreement for sale thereon;
- (iv) that is not revenue bearing or from which a nominal revenue is derived and is not used as a residence by the recipient, consider as income the net revenue that, in the opinion of the provincial authority, such property should or might reasonably be expected to yield;

(b) as regards the personal property—

- (i) of an unmarried recipient or a married recipient not living with his spouse, consider as annual income during the lifetime of the recipient the amount of an Immediate Canadian Government Annuity, Ordinary Life Plan, payable monthly, purchasable with the proceeds of the personal property owned by such recipient and calculated as of the actual age of such recipient;
- (ii) of a married recipient living with his spouse, subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, consider as annual income during the lifetime of and in respect of each spouse the amount of annuity purchasable with one-half the proceeds of the personal property jointly and severally owned by the recipient and his spouse and calculated as of the actual age of each;
- (iii) of a married recipient living with his spouse who is or becomes a recipient of assistance under The Old Age Assistance Act, consider as income during the period that the spouse is in receipt of assistance thereunder an amount calculated as provided in paragraph (b) of section 11 of

the Regulations under that Act and thereafter an amount calculated as provided in sub-paragraphs (i) or (ii) of this paragraph as the case may be on the value of the personal property owned at such time.

19. Where board and lodging or board or lodging is provided free to a recipient or for a nominal amount, the provincial authority shall consider as income of the recipient, and in the case of a recipient who is married and living with his spouse, of the recipient and his spouse, an amount that, in its opinion, is a fair and reasonable charge therefor, but which shall, in no case, be less than the amounts respectively herein-after set forth—

	<i>Unmarried recipient</i>	<i>Married recipient</i>
Lodging .....	\$10.00 monthly	\$15.00 monthly
Board .....	20.00 monthly	30.00 monthly
Board and Lodging .....	30.00 monthly	45.00 monthly

#### *Transfer of Property*

20. (1) Where a recipient or his spouse has, within the five years preceding the date of application or subsequent to such date, made an assignment or transfer of real or personal property, such recipient shall furnish to the provincial authority full particulars concerning such assignment or transfer.

(2) The provincial authority, from the particulars so furnished, shall determine whether or not the consideration for such assignment or transfer was inadequate or whether such assignment or transfer was made by such recipient or his spouse for the purpose of qualifying the recipient for an allowance or for a larger amount of allowance than he otherwise would be entitled to receive or to prevent recovery of any claim under provincial law.

(3) Where, from the particulars so furnished or in the absence of satisfactory particulars being furnished, the provincial authority is of the opinion that the consideration for an assignment or transfer of property was inadequate or that such assignment or transfer was made by a recipient or his spouse for the purpose of qualifying the recipient for an allowance or for a larger amount of allowance than he otherwise would be entitled to receive or to prevent recovery of any claim under provincial law, the provincial authority shall consider as income from such property an amount calculated as provided in section 18 in the case of property owned by a recipient or his spouse at the date of making application.

21. Where the recipient or his spouse re-converts into real property, personal property derived from the sale of real property held at the time an allowance was granted, the provincial authority may, in lieu of calculating as income of such recipient the value of the personal property so re-converted as provided in paragraph (b) of section 18, consider as income an amount respecting the newly acquired real property calculated as provided in paragraph (a) thereof.

### *When Allowance Shall Commence*

22. (1) An allowance shall be payable in arrears from the first day of the month following the month in which the recipient attains the age of twenty-one years or from the first day of the month following the month in which his application is approved, whichever is the later.

(2) Where an application is approved after the last day of the month in which it was received by the provincial authority, and delay in such approval resulted from circumstances wholly beyond the control of the recipient, the provincial authority may, in its discretion, declare that such approval shall be effective as of an earlier date which shall be a date after the recipient attains the age of twenty-one years and which shall in no case be earlier than the date of the receipt of the application by the provincial authority or a date not more than three months prior to that on which approval is given, whichever is the later; provided, however, that in any case where delay in such approval is attributable to the fact that the recipient is resident in a part of Canada that is accessible only at a certain time or times of the year or to delay in the receipt by the provincial authority of the certificate required by subsection (3) of section 6 and section 7, the period of three months herein mentioned may be extended to not more than six months;

(3) Where an allowance is suspended at the request of a recipient the same shall not be reinstated prior to the date on which the provincial authority is requested in writing by such recipient to do so.

(4) Except in the case of the Northwest Territories, no recipient shall be paid an allowance for any period exceeding one month during which such recipient receives direct relief out of moneys paid in whole or in part by the Government of Canada.

### *Manner Payable*

23. An allowance shall be paid by cheque or other instrument in a form approved by the province.

### *Incapacity of Recipient*

24. (1) Where a recipient is incapacitated through infirmity, illness or any other cause, and is unable to look after his own affairs or, if the provincial authority considers that the recipient is using or is likely to use his allowance otherwise than for his own benefit, the provincial authority may pay the allowance to a trustee appointed by such provincial authority to be expended for the benefit of the recipient.

(2) Any such trustee may be removed by the provincial authority or may resign and the provincial authority may appoint another trustee in his place.

(3) Any trustee so appointed shall, when required by the provincial authority, make returns showing the amount of the allowance received, the amount that has been expended for the benefit of the recipient and the balance remaining in the hands of the trustee.

(4) Subject to subsection (1), where the trustee so appointed is an officer or employee of an institution in which a recipient is being maintained, the provincial authority may authorize the trustee to pay to such institution such proportion of the allowance as is considered by the provincial authority to be a reasonable sum for the maintenance of the recipient, but shall require the trustee to make available to the recipient an amount which it considers reasonable for his personal use.

*Suspension of Allowance*

25. (1) The payment of an allowance shall be suspended

- (a) during the absence of a recipient from Canada, but the provincial authority may, if satisfied that the circumstances so justify, pay the allowance for any period of absence not exceeding a total of ninety-two days in the twelve-month period preceding the return of the recipient to Canada;
- (b) while serving any sentence to imprisonment that exceeds thirty days;
- (c) during the period that a recipient neglects or refuses to comply with the provisions of the Act and these Regulations or to furnish any information that he is required to furnish pursuant thereto.

(2) No allowance which has been suspended for a period in excess of six months shall be reinstated without first obtaining a certificate under section 6 or 7.

(3) A provincial authority shall recover from a recipient any sum improperly paid by way of allowance whether such sum was paid as the result of non-disclosure of facts, misrepresentations or any other cause, and, if the provincial authority is unable to recover the whole of such sum, the provincial authority shall suspend the payment of the allowance of such recipient until the aggregate amount of the suspended payments equals the sum improperly paid less any amount that has been recovered prior to such suspension; provided that where the recipient has not been guilty of fraud or misrepresentation the provincial authority, in its discretion, may reduce the allowance by an amount of not less than five dollars each month, so that recovery of such overpayment will be made in full within a period of not more than five years or prior to the recipient reaching the age of seventy years, whichever is the sooner.

*Increase or Reduction of Allowance*

26. The provincial authority shall require a recipient to report forthwith any increase or reduction in his income or real property or the income or real property of his spouse and to furnish particulars of any personal property acquired by him or his spouse after the date of his application.

27. Any recipient who desires to apply for an increase in the amount of the allowance to which he may be entitled under the Act, shall notify the provincial authority and shall furnish all necessary information.

*Accounting*

28. Any sums due by Canada to a province in settlement of Canada's share of the net amount expended by the province in payment of allowances shall be ascertained as of the last day of each month, shall be audited by the provincial auditor and shall be paid on the certificate of the provincial auditor as soon thereafter as possible, subject to final audit by officials of the Government of Canada. The accounts submitted by the provincial authority for the purpose of reimbursement shall contain such information as the Minister shall require.

29. In calculating the amount due by Canada to a province no account shall be taken of any sums that, under the provisions of the Act, such province is liable to reimburse another province or to be reimbursed by another province in respect of allowances granted therein or in such other province, nor shall any account be taken of the cost of administering or paying allowances.

30. In calculating the amount in respect of which any province is entitled to be reimbursed by another province under the provisions of the Act, regard shall be had only to the net amount of allowances paid by the province to be reimbursed after deducting therefrom the amount payable by Canada on account of such allowances.

31. Balances due by one province to another province under the provisions of the Act shall be settled monthly as of the same date as the sums due by Canada are payable.

32. The amount recovered by a provincial authority from a recipient or from the estate of a deceased recipient in respect of any allowance shall be distributed between the province responsible for payment of the provincial share of the allowance and Canada, in accordance with the amount of any such allowance respectively paid by each.

4240 41





OCT 4 1995

